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HANKS, JAMES

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Cognate Families of Lincoln

Shipley Family Lucy Shipley and James Hanks

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

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NEW LIGHT THROWN UPON THE ANCESTRY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S ancestry has long been a subject of question, guess and dispute. His forebears, on both sides of the house, were unlettered people who left few family records. Regarding these humble folk many misconceptions have naturally arisen and the host of Lincoln's biographers seem to have erred at times.

Especially obscure has been the history of Lincoln's two grandmothers—so obscure that even their names have been in doubt. In the accompanying article the stories of these "lost grandmothers" is told. The material on which they are based was gathered by Dr. Barton for his "Life of Abraham Lincoln," which will be published in March by the Bobbs-Merrill Company. Much of the evidence is here presented for the first time.

Thus there emerge into the light the figures of two heroic women—the one, Lucy Hanks, the story of whose trying ordeal contains in-

cident and romance enough for a great novel; and the other, Bathsheba, the "Widow Lincoln," whose story makes an inspiring episode in the intense drama of American pioneer life.

In his search for the lineage of the martyred President Dr. Barton has not accepted hearsay or the testimony of earlier writers, but has gone to original sources. Where the scanty family archives failed him, he has consulted public records, wills, deeds, tax lists, papers, time-stained and mutilated, some of them partly destroyed in the Civil War. In county court houses in Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois he has discovered biographic material that had not seen the light in a century. Out of the evidence thus laboriously gathered he believes that the true life stories of Lincoln's "lost grandmothers" can at last be told.

Dr. Barton is the author of "The Soul of Abraham Lincoln" and "The Paternity of Abraham Lincoln." He is minister of the First Congregational Church at Oak Hills, Ill.

By WILLIAM E. BARTON.

I.

Bathsheba, "The Widow Lincoln."

THE world has a legitimate interest in the ancestry of noted men. It does not stop with legitimate interest, but pursues its quest to the uttermost bounds of gossip and conjecture. The light that beats upon a throne shines mercilessly into every family closet of the great, and furnishes a dark-lantern for those who would dig for buried skeletons at the foot of the family tree.

No other American has supplied so much or such interesting labor for the genealogists as Abraham Lincoln. This labor has not been fruitless. Gathering up the results of an effort that may be said to have begun in 1848, in Abraham Lincoln's own correspondence with Solomon Lincoln of Hingham, Mass., and David Lincoln of Harrisonburg, Va., and coming to the dawn of the year 1925, we may say that on the paternal side, and so far as America is concerned, the investigation is virtually complete and satisfactory; but that on the maternal side the case is more sadly confused than it was twenty-five years ago.

Of the direct male line on this side of the water Miss Tarbell has told the story attractively in her recent book, "Following the Footsteps of the Lincolns." Professor Marion Dexter Learned told the story in a very good book, "Abraham Lincoln, an American Migration," which somehow has lost out in the shuffle, and whose edition of 500 copies still remains mostly unsold. I should be glad if my mention of it were to sell a few copies. Waldo Lincoln, in his massive "History of the Lincoln Family," recently published, has done what only a rich man could afford to do, and only a man who could give much time to the matter would have been willing to do. His new book, I judge, will be the standard work on this subject for at least a generation, and probably longer.

Nevertheless, the story is not wholly told. There are two parts of it which I wish to tell connectedly, as it has never been told before. I want to record the finding of both of Abraham Lincoln's lost grandmothers. The first is the story of his grandmother Lincoln, and the other, and the more interesting, is the story of his mother's mother.

For the First Time.

Abraham Lincoln was the son of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks. Thomas Lincoln was born on Linville Creek, in Rockingham County, Virginia, Jan. 5, 1778, and died near Farmington, Coles County, Illinois, Jan. 17, 1851. Both these dates are correct. Nancy Hanks was born in Virginia in 1784, at a date which no one knows, and died in Spencer County, Indiana, Oct. 5, 1819. They were humble, virtuous people, and were lawfully married by Rev. Jesse Head, on the Beech Fork, in Washington County, Ky., June 12, 1806. Abraham, their second child, was born Feb. 12, 1809.

The father of Thomas Lincoln was Abraham Lincoln, a Captain in the Virginia Militia, who was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, May 13, 1744, and was killed by an Indian at a date which is wrongly given in every book now in print that attempts to give it. The precise day of the month is not known, but it was in May, 1780, that the pioneer Lincoln was killed.

The President was accustomed to say that no story that he learned in his childhood impressed him as did the story which he so often heard his father relate, of the killing of his grandfather, and of the swift revenge taken by the oldest son, Mordecai, who took deliberate aim through the cracks of the cabin and shot the Indian who was about to slay the little boy Thomas, beside the body of his father.

I have been led to four different places where Abraham Lincoln, the President's grandfather, was killed. One is in the heart of Louisville, and the site was attested by a great-grandson, Hon. J. L. Nall, who believed himself to be telling the story as he had heard it from his grandmother and great-grandmother. Another is in Hardin County, and has behind it the confident belief of the entire community in which the widow of Captain Lincoln lived and reared her children.

The real place I had a share in discovering, with Hon. R. C. Ballard-Thruston of the Filson Club of Louisville, and the Rev. Louis A. Warren of Morganfield, Ky. It is on the edge of Jefferson County, close to Shelby, near the Baptist church, on Long Run of Floyd's Fork. This we have established past reasonable doubt.

Bathsheba Lincoln.

But who was the wife of this Captain Abraham Lincoln? Who mothered the five children left fatherless by that murder?

When John G. Nicolay and John Hay were gathering material for their "Abraham Lincoln, a History," they tried to learn the answer to this question from Hon. J. L. Nall, to whom reference has already been made. He was a grandson of his great-grandmother's youngest child, Nancy Lincoln Brumfield, and dimly remembered his great-grandmother, who died in the home in which he was born, on Mill Creek, Hardin County, Kentucky: the year of her death was 1836, and she was said to have been 100 years old. It would be safe to discount by about 10 per cent. the ages of people who keep no family records and whose grandchildren remember them as dying about 100 years of age, and that is apparently just about her age when she died in 1836. This would make her two years younger than her husband, who was born in 1744. Mr. Nall was not at all certain about his great-grandmother's first name, and had no knowledge whatever about her maiden name, but when it was suggested to him that her name was Mary, he vaguely thought he remembered that it was so.

But other grandchildren, whom Nicolay and Hay never interviewed or knew much about (though John Hay spent a

good part of his life within a few miles of them), were the children of Mordecai, the same lad who shot the Indian. These moved to Illinois in 1829, and settled near the Mississippi. Their letters, of which I have a number, were addressed to them at "the head of the rapids," that is, opposite Keokuk. These people distinctly recalled that as they were leaving Kentucky they paid a farewell visit to this very aged woman and they remembered her as "Granny Basheby."

Nicolay and Hay published their first instalments in the Century Magazine in 1886. To their surprise they received a letter from John T. Harris Jr., saying that a deed was on record in Harrisonburg, Va., signed by Abraham Lincoln and his wife, and that the name of the wife was not Mary but Bathsheba.

The Shenandoah Valley Record.

How could there be any such record? Did not Phil Sheridan destroy everything in the Shenandoah Valley, so that if a crow had occasion to fly that way he had to take his provisions with him? And was it not known that the records of Rockingham County were burned in his raid? Phil Sheridan made a thorough job in his destruction of the mills and granaries which, by way of the

Manassas Gap Railway, were sending much grain to Lee's army. But if the county officials had let the records alone those records would not have suffered at all. As it was, they bundled them into a wagon and hurried them out of town. Soldiers captured the wagon and set fire to its contents. When the clerk in charge assured the officers that these were not records of the Confederate Government, but only county records, the officers permitted the fire to be extinguished and the records, badly damaged, to be returned to the Court House.

These records show that on Feb. 18, 1780, Abraham Lincoln sold his Shenandoah Valley farm to Michael Shanks for 5,000 pounds of the current money of Virginia, a sum that looks large on paper but was microscopic in purchasing power, except for more land. This deed names Abraham Lincoln's wife as Bathsheba, and the accompanying documents refer to her also as Bersheba and once as Barbara. She herself signed as "Batsab Lincoln."

A Scene of Pioneer Life.

The deed was defective, because Bathsheba was not well and was unable to ride to the Court House, nine miles or such a matter each way, to be examined, "privately, apart from and out of hearing of her said husband," as to her consent freely given to the deed. So, on Sept. 8, 1781, a commission was appointed to visit her in her home and examine her privately and report to the court; and the commission did report on Sept. 24, 1781, that the said Barbara of Bersheba or Bathsheba, as she is variously called, did freely consent to the deed. So far as she was concerned, the consent was a mistake, for the Shenandoah Valley was just then com-

JOSEPH HANKS - NANCY HANKS**LUCY** { M. Henry Sparrow, }
April 3, 1791**ELIZABETH** { M. Thos. Sparrow, }
Oct. 17, 1796**POLLY** { M. Jesse Friend, }
Dec. 10, 1795**NANCY** (M. Levi Hall)**NANCY HANKS** (b. 1784, m. Thomas Lincoln, June 12, 1806)**DENNIS HANKS**
(b. May 15, 1799)**ABRAHAM LINCOLN**

(b. Feb. 12, 1809)

ing into its best development, and the sale and removal meant hardship and sorrow for her and the family.

Rockingham was originally a part of Augusta County, and the records of that county show that, on June 9, 1770, a license was granted to Abraham Lincoln to marry. Unfortunately, they do not name the bride. When the record of this license was discovered, the genealogists had to do some new guessing. Abraham Lincoln, so they concluded, married Mary Shipley a day or two after June 9, 1770, and she was the mother of four of his children; but she died about 1770, and Abraham married Bathsheba as his second wife, and she was the mother of Thomas. He, her one child, was wronged out of his inheritance by his older brothers, children of the first wife.

Waldo Lincoln found that this conclusion would not answer. The births of the Lincoln children, beginning in 1771 and totaling five by 1780, left no room for a death and a remarriage. But he wrought out this interesting theory, that Bathsheba was the first wife, mother of all the children, and was never well after the birth of her last baby, Nancy, March 25, 1780, and that Bathsheba died soon after the signing away of her dower rights in September, 1781, so that her husband, Abraham, having sold out and being ready to remove to Kentucky, where he had journeyed and bought land in 1780, promptly married Mary Shipley, who was not the mother of any of his children, but survived him and brought up the family.

This seemed to me too prompt action, even in that period when the rigor of frontier life did not permit widows and widowers to sit long beside the graves of their loved ones, and I was able to

halt Mr. Lincoln's book, while it was on the press, with a discovery of remarkable interest. If he has proved, as I think he has, that there was no Mary Shipley as a first wife, I have proved that there was no Mary Shipley as a second wife. The name of Captain Abraham Lincoln's widow was not Mary but Bathsheba. The Illinois Lincolns were correct in their recollection that their grandmother was "Granny Bathsheba." Mr. Nall was wrong about his great-grandmother's name, as he was about his great-grandmother's death.

"The Widow Lincoln."

In the Autumn of 1786 an armed expedition was organized on Floyd's Fork to go in pursuit of the Indians. A subscription list was passed around. It still is in existence, in the Durrett Collection in the library of the University of Chicago. Most of the amounts subscribed were in kind, and an appraised value was placed upon them. Among those who subscribed was "The Widow Lincoln," who gave a gun—perhaps the gun with which her son Mordecai had avenged the death of his father.

She did not long remain amid the sad scenes of the tragedy. The estate of Abraham Lincoln was settled in Nelson County, of which Washington County was then a part. In 1795 a road is described as running past "the widow Lincoln's," on what is now called Lincoln Run, to Beech Fork.

But how do we know who this widow Lincoln was? Who knows that her name was not Mary?

In the Summer of 1922 when I was searching for material on a book which I hope soon to publish telling the life story of Abraham Lincoln, the Secretary of the Kentucky State Historical

Society, Mrs. Jouett Taylor Cannon, protested against the proposal to burn a stack of rubbish in the basement of the old Capitol at Frankfort. The rubbish was taken out upon the lawn, and the dust of more than a century was removed from it—and still there is some dust left. The rubbish proved to contain, among other things, a stack of old tax lists from several Kentucky counties. Almost immediately she wrote to me that in the tax list of Washington County for 1792 she had found some Lincolns, among them Bathsheba.

The real estate was in Mordecai's name; but Bathsheba was taxed for a horse and ten cattle, and she had to pay a poll tax for a son above sixteen and under twenty-one. He must have been her second son, Josiah. I was soon on the ground examining these lists. The list for 1793 has not been found, but that for 1794 shows Bathsheba still there, taxed for one horse and ten cattle, and for two sons above sixteen and under twenty-one, these being, beyond doubt, Josiah, born 1773, and Thomas, born 1778. In due time Josiah appears in subsequent lists as above twenty-one, and Thomas himself appears as of legal age in the tax lists beginning in 1799. This, by the way, shows that President Lincoln was right and that Lea and Hutchinson were wrong in the date of the birth of Thomas Lincoln. If he was above sixteen in 1794 and above twenty-one in 1799 he must have been born in 1778, just as his son declared.

I am not telling here the story of Thomas Lincoln. Partly through my own effort and partly through the help of friends, especially of the Rev. Louis A. Warren, I have more than a hundred official records of the President's

father. When I began my research, hardly a single correct and undisputed date was available, save only that of his marriage. Our present concern, however, is not with him, but with his mother.

Now we know the story of "the Widow Lincoln." Harriet Beecher Stowe has spoken in one of her books about the custom of thus denominating a woman whose life had been blasted by widowhood. It gave her a kind of holy dignity, such as belongs to a tree struck by lightning, to call her "the Widow Lincoln." She was not Mary Shipley. I have not been able to discover any credible evidence of the existence of any of the five Shipley sisters; some of them, and perhaps all of them, were created out of less material than went to the making of Eve, and they have been walking through the Lincoln literature of the last twenty-five years without a fig leaf of veracity to cover their nakedness. The only wife of Captain Abraham Lincoln for whom there is known to exist a shred of documentary evidence is Bathsheba.

A Well-Born Woman.

Her maiden name appears to have been Herring and she would seem to have been the daughter of Leonard Herring of Bridgewater, Va. The Herrings are an aristocratic family, proud of their connection with Lincoln, of course, yet quietly intimating that, while Abraham Lincoln was a great and good man and that his grandfather of the same name was brave and worthy, the Herrings were of higher social standing than the Lincolns.

If this is indeed the correct name of Bathsheba, then we are able to learn more about her, for we know that her father, Leonard Herring, was the son

of Bethuel and he was the son of John, and the family is not obscure. But we may leave all that for the genealogists. Our task is complete in having furnished Abraham Lincoln with a paternal grandmother. We may dismiss without compunction the mythical Mary Shipley and with her we may cast into the discard very much misinformation.

The Lincolns were Baptists, both in Virginia and Kentucky. The Herrings were Episcopalians. There were no Quakers so far as known among President Lincoln's ancestors; nor had he in him any strain of the blood that was in the veins of Daniel Boone. Collateral lines married into the Boone family and intermarried with the Quakers, but we may dismiss all the fairy stories that say the Lincolns in New England were Quakers and fled from Puritan intolerance through Pennsylvania to Virginia.

Bathsheba Herring appears quite certainly to have been the bride whom Captain Abraham Lincoln married very soon after June 9, 1770. Mordecai was born next year, Josiah in 1773, Mary in 1775 or 1776, Thomas on January 5, 1778 and Nancy, March 25, 1780. Bathsheba was Abraham's wife when she signed the deed on February 18, 1780, and when she relinquished her dower rights in September, 1781. She it was, who, though unable to ride nine miles and back to the Court House, found it possible to make the long, hard and dangerous journey through Cumberland Gap and to care for five small children as she traveled. She it was who mourned over the body of her murdered husband in the Spring of 1786 and remained in her lonely cabin near Hughes Station on Long Run of Floyd's Fork until she had harvested the pathetic

crop her husband was planting when he was killed. She it was who, as "the Widow Lincoln," contributed the gun to fight the Indians in the Fall of 1786. She it was who reared her five children to respectable manhood and womanhood.

Under the Virginia law of primogeniture, her eldest son Mordecai inherited all the real estate. Sentimental biographers have been quick to assume that he appropriated it all to his own use, and either alone or with the help of his brother Josiah wronged Thomas out of his share. This is a shameful charge to bring against two otherwise unimpeached men. There is, of course, no court record showing how Mordecai distributed his father's estate. When he came of age he took legal possession. But when Josiah came of age we find Mordecai selling land that had belonged to his father and Josiah buying land for himself and paying for it in cash. Similarly, soon after Thomas came of age Mordecai sells more land, and Thomas buys an improved farm of 230 acres and pays for it in cash. There is only one reasonable inference, which is that this family, held together by the mother till all the children were well grown, made equitable division among themselves, and that each son received his honest share.

Bathsheba was still living in Washington County in 1801, when her youngest child, Nancy, was married. She signed her daughter's consent; signed it, not as stepmother or guardian, but as Nancy's mother. Later she went to Hardin County to live with this daughter, and there made her home through her long and honorable old age. She survived her husband a full half century, and died in 1836. She lies beside her daughter in an unmarked grave in the old deserted graveyard on Mill Creek, in Hardin County, Kentucky.

Thus do we provide Abraham Lincoln with his own paternal grandmother, and it has been an interesting search. But he had two grandmothers, and the other one has been more sadly lost than Bathsheba. Let us find her.

Who was the mother of Nancy Hanks? Not without labor and a romantic inquiry shall we learn the answer to this question.

II.

The Mother of Nancy Hanks.

AFTER John G. Nicolay and John Hay had been for some time at work on their "Abraham Lincoln, a History," John Hay wrote to Robert T. Lincoln the following letter:

Cleveland, Ohio,
Jan. 27, 1885.

Dear Bob:

Nicolay tells me he has laid before you, or is about to do so, the first volumes of our history, containing the chapters in which I have described the first forty years of your father's life. I need not tell you that every line has been written in a spirit of reverence and regard. Still you may find here and there words and sentences which do not suit you. I write now to request that you will read with a pencil in your hand, and strike out everything to which you object. I will adopt your view in all cases, whether I agree with it or not.

To what extent Mr. Lincoln availed himself of this very broad liberty we have no means of knowing. From subsequent correspondence it is evident that he made some suggestions. Whether he made any important changes or not, it is certain that the invaluable source-book of Nicolay and Hay was written with the full realization that it was to be submitted before publication to the Hon. Robert T. Lincoln, who had supplied his father's papers on this condition.

Before he had read very far Robert T. Lincoln encountered this paragraph concerning the parentage of Nancy Hanks, over which, I venture to say, his newly sharpened pencil remained for some time deliberately poised:

Mrs. Lincoln's mother was named Lucy Hanks; her sisters were Betty, Polly and Nancy, who married Thomas Sparrow, Jesse Friend, and Levi Hall. The childhood of Nancy was passed with the Sparrows, and she was oftener called by their name than her own. The whole family connection was composed of people so little given to letters that it is hard to determine the proper names and relationships amid the tangle of traditional cousinships.

Never, I dare say, did John Hay better illustrate his right to be counted a diplomatist than in the framing of that paragraph. I question whether any other part of the ten volumes of his and Nicolay's huge work cost either of them so much thought.

Truth Cautiously Told.

It told the truth. No one could question that. And it told the truth so skillfully that one might easily read the paragraph and hardly notice that nothing was said about which husband which sister married, or that there was one husband lacking. So far as I know, no one demanded that they should go further. The paragraph was published in the magazine and republished several years later in the first volume of the set of ten books. To this day I am far from declaring that John Hay was culpable for leaving the matter in that somewhat indefinite and truthful way. The truth was there, for any one who had right to know it; and it was not stated in a way to provoke the morbid curiosity of the thoughtless.

There is where the matter ought to have been left, and that is where I should have left it had I been permitted to do so. I was deeply interested in disproving the slander against the mother of Abraham Lincoln in my book, "The Paternity of Abraham Lincoln," and I proved, as I believe, for all time, that Abraham Lincoln was the son of a virtuous mother and born in honest wedlock. But was that mother herself an illegitimate child? Abraham Lincoln believed that she was and John Hay and John G. Nicolay and Robert T. Lincoln accepted the paragraph already quoted as a sufficient statement of an unpleasant truth.

Somewhat later there was discovered at Bardstown, Nelson County, Ky., the will of Joseph Hanks, executed Jan. 8, 1793, and probated Jan. 14 of the same year. This will named his wife, Nancy, and five sons and three daughters. The sons, to each of whom he left a horse, were Thomas, Joshua, Joseph, William and Charles. The three daughters named, to each of whom he left a shifer, were Elizabeth, Polly and Nancy.

On a most unfortunate day this document fell under the gaze of Mrs. Caroline Hanks Hitchcock, a descendant of the New England Hankses. She hastened into print with a little book entitled "Nancy Hanks." It stated that Mrs. Hitchcock had nearly ready for the press a complete genealogy of the Hanks family, from which this little volume furnished some pages in advance. Twenty-five years have gone by and Mrs. Hitchcock has not published her genealogy. She did not have, and does not have, material for a complete and authoritative work covering that subject.

A Biographic Error.

Still unfortunately, Miss Tarbell, who had written a very readable and in some respects very valuable biography of Lincoln, wrote the introduction for Mrs. Hitchcock's little book. And the little volume went forth to darken counsel by words without knowledge.

Mrs. Hitchcock, discovering the name Nancy in the will of Joseph Hanks, wasted no time in assuring herself that this was the mother of the President, the youngest daughter of Joseph Hanks. She went on to tell that Nancy, when the death of her father left her in need of a home, was adopted by her "kind uncle Richard Berry," husband of Lucy Shipley, sister of Nancy Shipley, the wife of Joseph Hanks. This "dear Aunt Lucy and 'kind Uncle Richard'" cared for her, through a care-free youth, in which she went hunting and hawking and fishing and riding over a vast domain. In time he signed her marriage bond as "guardian," thus proving his legal title.

Now the title "guardian," assumed in signing a marriage bond for a woman 23 years of age, with no property to guard, is far from proving a legal guardianship. Moreover, this "kind Uncle Richard" had died in 1798, and this "dear Aunt Lucy" was not an aunt, and her name was Rachel. The man who signed the marriage bond was the younger Richard Berry, and his wife was Polly Ewing.

I am unwilling to believe that Mrs. Hitchcock invented her story. Miss Tarbell, certainly, is far above any purpose to misrepresent. Her motives were of the best. But she was imposed upon.

It Mrs. Hitchcock, or whoever gave her the information, had been content with a wrong guess at the particular Nancy referred to in Joseph Hanks's will, it would be easy to forgive her. There were numerous women named Nancy in the Hanks connection. When the will of Luke Hanks of Western North Carolina was probated, there were seventeen Nancys among the descendants of that one ancestor. Mrs. Hitchcock was not to be blamed for a bad guess. But the bad guesswork did not stop there, and went on into intricacies which need not here be followed.

Lincoln's Own Testimony.

When Lea and Hutchinson wrote their "Ancestry of Lincoln" they were wholly dependent on Mrs. Hitchcock for their Hanks material. They saw that she had not established a connection between the Hankses of Massachusetts and those of Virginia, nor between those of Virginia and the Hanks family of Kentucky, and they tried ineffectively to supply the missing material. What they did not know was that no relationship was established between Joseph Hanks and the President's mother. They still thought that Nancy Hanks Lincoln was the daughter of Joseph Hanks. That supposition, if true, would have contradicted not only Nicolay and Hay but also President Lincoln, who in 1860 gave John Locke Scrips material for a campaign biography.

Referring to his second voyage down the Mississippi, Lincoln named John Hanks as one of his associates. He digressed long enough to say that this John Hanks was the same John who was conspicuous at that moment in connection with the rail-splitting incident, and that he was "a first cousin of Abraham's mother." John Hanks, who sold rails with Lincoln, was a son of William, son of Joseph. Had the President's mother been a daughter of Joseph, she would have been John Hanks's aunt, not his first cousin. In short, Mrs. Hitchcock contradicts all evidence, save only that of Joseph Hanks's will. That will names three daughters, not four. It does not name a daughter Lucy.

In Waldo Lincoln's massive new book.

"The Lincoln Family," is the definite statement that Lucy's existence has not been proved. In Miss Tarbell's new book, "Following the Footsteps of the Lincolns," is a friendly challenge, saying that if Dr. Barton can prove that Lucy existed and thus establish the place of Nancy Hanks in her family, he will relieve Lincoln authors of much uncertainty and disgust, but she adds that his proof must be faultless.

The Four Hanks Sisters.

I accept the challenge of these two friends and others, and I am about to tell, for the first time, the whole story of the four Hanks sisters. Let me first dispose of the three named in the Joseph Hanks will.

There is no dispute about Mary (or Polly). She married Jesse Friend, and the record of her marriage, by Rev. Josiah Dodge, Dec. 10, 1795, is on file in Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Elizabeth married Thomas Sparrow. Their marriage bond, dug out for me with great industry by the Misses Mary A. and Martha Stephenson of Harrodsburg,

bears date of Oct. 17, 1796. Of this humble and worthy couple I shall have more to say.

The story of the youngest daughter, Nancy, is a sad one. This young aunt of the President's mother went, after the death of her own mother, Nancy, to live in the home of her married sister, Polly Friend. She was betrayed by Charles, the brother of her sister's husband, Jesse Friend, and on May 15, 1799, she gave birth to Dennis Hanks. Dennis Hanks was the one man living in 1865 who had known Abraham Lincoln intimately from the cradle, slept with him, worked with him and been his boyhood associate.

Dennis lived to be more than ninety years of age and was ready at any minute to dispute concerning the scriptural mode of baptism, which he held to be immersion, or to give valid reasons for voting the Democratic ticket, or to tell how large his part had been in making Abraham Lincoln a great man. Though given to exaggeration, he was in the main truthful, and he is by far our best witness concerning the boyhood of Lincoln. Biographers commonly flout him, but I find him usually correct. Whenever he and Mrs. Hitecock contradict each other—and that is most of the time—and when there is documentary proof available for a decision, it is invariably Mrs. Hitecock whose claim is disproved. Still we are not wholly dependent on Dennis Hanks.

We may say a further word about his parents. His father, Charles Friend, promptly got another girl, Nancy Riley, into trouble and was arrested for it, her son being born Nov. 7, 1802. On Nov. 19, 1804, Charles married Sallie, daughter of Edward Huss. He became prominent in the Little Mount Baptist Church. It is a legacy of his that has kept the church-yard from total neglect and makes it possible at this day to know where some of the relatives of the Lincolns were buried.

Nancy Hanks, mother of Dennis, married Levi Hall and lived thereafter a virtuous life. Levi and Nancy Hall removed to Indiana in 1818, and they and Thomas and Elizabeth Sparrow all died of the milk-sickness within a few days of one another. Their graves are in the same inclosure with that of the President's mother.

So much for the sisters Mary, Elizabeth and Nancy. But what about Lucy?

The simple explanation is that Joseph Hanks disinherited his oldest daughter.

Life Story of Lucy Hanks.

"But," I hear some reader reply, "Nancy Hanks (daughter of Lucy), was born in 1784, and she and her mother lived with the grandparents and came with them from Tennessee into Kentucky, and the father died in 1793. Little Nancy was 9 years old. Did Joseph Hanks, a dying man, refuse to forgive his daughter for an offense committed nine years before?"

I am sorry to answer that the birth of Nancy was not Lucy's last offense. Nancy was Lucy's last and only illegitimate child, but Lucy did not forsake her wayward life on the removal of the family to Kentucky. Joseph Hanks disinherited his oldest daughter, though she was married and behaving like a perfect lady, because the iron of her bad behavior had gone deep into his soul, and she had become notorious.

The early inhabitants of Kentucky were much given to litigation. Most of it was done in the County Court, so that when the Circuit Court met, as it did once a quarter, the members of the Grand Jury were hard put to it to earn their mileage and per diem. There was

one thing they could always do, and that was to indict the Highway Commissioners. Every member of the Grand Jury knew that the Commissioner of the road over which he had come to the Court House deserved hanging. I, having been familiar with those roads for forty years, vote to sustain the indictment.

When the Grand Jury met on Nov. 7, 1789, in the old town of Harrodsburg, it would have found nothing to do except to indict the road "surveyors," as they were called. If Lucy Hanks had been behaving herself. But they brought in an indictment against her. They did not like to do it, and no papers were served upon her. In March the court met again, and she did not answer to the indictment, so the sheriff was again ordered to summon her. Like a Kentucky gentleman, he stuck the summons in his pocket and sat around the courthouse and let Lucy alone. But in May the accusation had to be answered, or something unpleasant would happen, and it would have happened but for what I am about to tell.

A Knightly Pioneer.

Henry Sparrow was born in Mecklenburg County, Va., Oct. 9, 1765, and served in the Revolutionary War. In his last years he drew a pension, which is fortunate for my purposes. The Pension Office has his honorable record and the

date of his birth. It also knows that he died in the autumn of 1840, the exact date not known. He was the eldest of a large family, and his father died May 18, 1789. Henry became the head of the family and cared for his mother, Mary, his sister Biddy, and his brothers, Thomas, James, Peter and Dennis. (By the way, it was for this Dennis Sparrow that Dennis Hanks was named.)

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"I thank you, Henry, with all my heart for sheltering me from prosecution and offering me the protection of your name. But I must not marry you under these conditions. Give me a year in which to prove to you that I can live a virtuous life. With your love and confidence, and the prospect of a home and an honest name, I can do it."

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Among Lincoln's Kin-Folk.

There is a region in Anderson County known as "the cut-off." Anderson sometimes went Republican in the old days. A righteous Legislature, determined to make two Democratic counties where formerly there had been one, changed the boundary line, with the happy result that both Anderson and Mercer have been safely Democratic ever since. In that region live the descendants of Henry and Lucy Sparrow. If you wanted to set together in the shortest time the largest number of living blood relations of Abraham Lincoln, you would ask my friend, the Hon. William H. Townsend of Lexington, to take you in his automobile to the Sparrow Union Church, now known as New Liberty, on some pleasant Sunday when, once a month, there is preaching there.

On Memorial Day, which in the South is celebrated on Sunday, you would find a thousand people there, and at least a fourth of them would be related to Abraham Lincoln. And they all know it. They know that their great or great-great-grandmother had a daughter (by a previous marriage, as they suppose) named Nancy Hanks, and that she was the President's mother. They bring out their family pictures, and Abraham Lincoln's is among them. They have read no books about him; they do not know the story which I am telling; but they know they are Lincoln's kin, and they know exactly what relation they are.

The Sparrows and the Hankses have been separated by hundreds of miles and for a hundred years, yet their stories and those of the Halls and the Friends agree. And the records show that they are right.

Had you been in Anderson County in the days of the Civil War you would have found a sadly divided community. For many Southern soldiers went from that neighborhood, and their graves are decorated every year impartially with the graves of those who wore the blue. But you would have heard the Rev. Henry Sparrow, or possibly his brother James, preaching and praying for the Union and for their nephew, Abraham Lincoln.

Henry and Lucy had been married two years when Lucy's father, Joseph Hanks, died. Meanwhile, Lucy's daughter, Nancy, had lived with her grandparents, on a rough farm on the Rolling Fork of Salt River. She continued to live there until her grandmother died, and then she had to find another home. Thomas Sparrow, Henry's brother, married Elizabeth Hanks, Lucy's sister. These worthy people had no children. They took Nancy as their own, and, as John Hay says, she was called oftener by their name than by her own.

Nancy's Girlhood.

William H. Herndon visited Spencer County, Ind., soon after the death of Abraham Lincoln, and learned that the neighbors who buried Thomas and Elizabeth Sparrow and Nancy Hanks Lincoln had no suspicion that the Sparrows were not, in fact, Nancy's parents. They were the only parents she

ever knew. When the older Nancy Hanks got into trouble, they took her baby, also, and brought up Dennis Hanks as their own. He once entered a lawsuit, after their death, as heir-at-law of Thomas Sparrow, and his claim was of sufficient weight to secure a financial settlement out of court.

These humble people, childless, brought up Dennis, and caused him to be taught so well that he was by far the most literate of all the Hanks connection in his generation. His claim is not improbable that he first taught Abraham Lincoln to read. He wrote a good hand, and while his spelling and grammar were erratic, he expressed himself clearly and, as a rule, consistently and truthfully.

The world's best knowledge of Abraham Lincoln's youth is preserved because of such educational advantages as Thomas and Elizabeth Sparrow were able to give to Dennis Hanks. They gave Lincoln's mother advantages superior to their own, so that she was regarded by her relatives as remarkably well educated. For what learning she had, and for such love of it as she gave to her son, we have Thomas and Elizabeth Sparrow to thank.

There was no "Kind Uncle Richard Berry" to rear her in the lap of luxury; there was no "dear Aunt Lucy Berry" as foster-mother. But there were two honest, God-fearing, illiterate people who gave to two fatherless children the best opportunity they could secure, and one of the children became, worthily, the mother of a President.

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I have thus restored to her place in the ancestral line the lost grandmother of Abraham Lincoln, Lucy Hanks Sparrow. She deserves her place there, and no one henceforth and forever shall take her out of that place. We have come a long journey, from cabin to cabin and from court house to court house, over the Wilderness Road. We will now alight and lift our saddles. No one coming after us will ever discover that we have taken the wrong road. We have arrived.

The author, humbly bowing, begs pardon if the search has wearied the reader, but does not feel very apologetic about it. For we have found the girl who had a wayward youth, and lived down her past, and gave to the world well-nigh a thousand descendants, most of them capable, honest and righteous. Two of her own sons were ministers of the Gospel, and of her grandsons one was a President of the United States. Let him who has done more for posterity than Lucy Hanks cast the first stone.

But I must tell you a little more about Lucy. Her father could not read and her brothers could not read, but she could read and write. Like every Hanks who could write at all, she wrote with a swing. There exists one specimen of her handwriting. The spelling is somewhat original. She started to spell "approbation" with an "s" but changed it in time. Here is her sole literary monument:

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Test Robert day
Lucy
michel
John berry
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Henry and Lucy had been married fifteen years when Nancy was married, and they were living twenty miles away from Beach Fork, not very far from the battlefield of Perryville. I was so curious about the relation of the Doctor's Fork community to the Beach Fork community that I made a special journey over the ground to see if the two were separated by high hills or impassable streams.

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Those who have come from a distance have lifted their saddles and turned their horses into the pasture lot. The women are in the house and yard. The men lounge out toward the barn. An appetizing smell comes from the cook-house. The fiddler is trying his home-made catgut with strains of the "Money-musk," or "Turkey in the Straw," or "Hey, Betty Martin, Tip-Toe, Tip-Toe." The sun shines bright in the old Kentucky home; 'tis Summer, the darkies are gay.

Complete Life Stories of the Mothers of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks Now Told for the First Time

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Yonder comes the parson, Jesse Head. A few years from now he will own as many as three horses, for he knows a good horse, but now he owns only one, which the assessor tells us was gray. He rides his gray horse to the block, alights, lifts his saddle and looks well to the back of his beast to see that it does not scald in the hot weather. He is tall, thin and wiry, and was 38 years old on the day before yesterday. He is said to fear God, but he does not fear any man. He is a hard-hitting devil-fighter, and is doing his heroic part to save the wilderness from godlessness and immorality. He has no suspicion that this wedding is any different from the ordinary wedding of his experience, or that it will make his name memorable.

"Uncle" and "Aunt."

And now I wonder if I do not see two other guests approaching. I know which way they came. I see them riding down to the ford, the water splashing musically as their horses wade in, and then I see the horses pause for a good drink. I think I hear her address a remark to her husband, and there is just a shade of anxiety in her voice, but there is a strong, reassuring tone in his answer. They ford the stream and ride up to the block and she goes into the house, while her husband, led by one of the Berry boys, takes the horses to the pasture bars, removes the saddles and turns them loose for a roll.

This couple are present during the ceremony, I am almost sure of it. They are introduced to those who do not know them as another aunt and uncle of the bride, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sparrow, from over in Mercer.

Yes, they have good right to be there.

I imagine another scene. Ten years from that Autumn Henry and Lucy were informed that Thomas and Nancy Lincoln were about to move to Indiana, and I am sure they rode over to Knob Creek to bid them farewell. Thomas had brought back glowing accounts of Indiana, which he had visited and where he had already established a claim on land. Henry and Lucy could do no less than bid them farewell. An aunt and uncle owed them that courtesy.

I will not attempt to reproduce the scene at the parting of Lucy Hanks Sparrow and Nancy Hanks Lincoln. Outwardly they preserved the characters and relationships so long established between them, but the heart of each must have been very tender.

Nancy had a tall, manly son, a boy 7 years of age, named Abraham. To him and to his older sister, Sarah, Lucy made her farewell. She said no word from which either could have remembered anything that would have suggested any other relationship than that which belonged to her as Abraham's mother's aunt. But Lucy knew that this fine lad was her own grandson.

She did not live to see him a great man, but she kept some things in her heart and pondered them.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the Marriage shortly intended to be solemnized between the above bound Henry Sparrow and Lucy Hanks for a husband and wife I have now if there be no lawful cause to the contrary bound & Marriage them the above obligation to be void or to remain in full force and virtue as per name of the parties
Jesse Head
John Daniel

MARRIAGE BOND

of Henry Sparrow and Lucy Hanks, Discovered at Harrodsburg, Kentucky, by the Misses Mary A. and Martha Stephenson.

Read and Write He was a very good boy and an honest man. So was his father Thomas Lincoln. Before him his Mother Mother belong to the Baptist Church a Christian Lady in every respect
Dennis F. Hanks

By DENNIS F. HANKS.

Part of the Autobiographical Sketch in Which Lincoln's Cousin Sets Out His Relations With the Future President.

STORY OF LINCOLN'S LOST GRANDMOTHER

Chicago, Feb. 3.—In delving after knowledge relative to the maternal grandmother of Abraham Lincoln, Rev. William E. Barton, pastor of the First Congregational church of Oak Park, Chicago, suburb, and author of numerous books, one of which was on Lincoln, states that he has found data which definitely identifies Lincoln's paternal grandmother, known among historians as "Lincoln's Lost Grandmother."

Rev. Mr. Barton states that in his paper, which was read to an invited audience of scholars, historians, judges and theologians here today, that he realizes that he is disputing eminent authorities and declaring distinguished writers on the subject to be in error. The meeting was not open to the public, not all the members even of the Chicago Historical Society, under whose auspices the paper was given, being invited.

Not One But Two.

"I have promised to bring to this meeting the lost grandmother of Abraham Lincoln. I am prepared to produce not one but two. All the biographies of Abraham Lincoln are incorrect as to his paternal grandmother. She was not Mary Shipley, as Nicolay and Hay, on the authority of J. H. Hall have told us; nor was she of the Boone family, as Gideon Welles, Lincoln's secretary of war maintained. Nor was the pioneer Abraham Lincoln twice married, once to Mary Shipley, mother of his two eldest sons, and later to Bathsheba Harring, mother of Thomas. The marriage license of Virginia sometimes gave the name of the groom and omitted that of the bride. So was it with the record of Abraham Lincoln, the president's grandfather. His license to marry was issued in Rockingham county, Virginia, June 9, 1776, and the bride is not named. When Abraham Lincoln was selling his farm in Virginia, February 18, 1780, preparatory to removal to Kentucky, his wife Bathsheba signed the deed, and on September 8, 1781, relinquished her dower rights. She was not well at the time and could not ride twelve miles to the court house, so a commission was sent to acknowledge her relinquishment. It has been supposed that Bathsheba was a second wife. Mary Shipley being the first. Then, when it was found that this could not be, it was supposed that Bathsheba died in 1781 and Abraham Lincoln married Mary Shipley as his second wife. Last summer, in a pile of old tax lists in the basement of the old capital at Frankfort, the secretary of the Kentucky Historical Society discovered a list of Washington county for 1775, which shows that Bathsheba Lincoln survived her husband.

Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the president, was murdered by Indians, not in 1784, as the president thought, but in May, 1786, and his widow long survived him. Here then, is the paternal grandmother of President Lincoln, Bathsheba, whom the pioneer Abraham Lincoln married in Rockingham county, Virginia, in 1776, the mother of all his children, his one and only wife. All the books are in error; they must henceforth be corrected. This is the first announcement of the discovery.

Change Tradition.

"But Bathsheba (whose name may or may not have been Harring) is not the grandmother we are getting out to discover, we include her for good measure. We are after the mother of Nancy Hanks. Here we confront a historical problem of the very greatest difficulty, and one which many books have darkened by words without knowledge.

"The Hanks tradition, as given by Lemon, Herndon, and accepted by Nicolay and Hay, is thus given:

"Mrs. Lincoln's mother was named Lucy Hanks; her sisters were Betty, Polly and Nancy, who married Thomas Sparrow, Jesse Friend and Levi Hall. The childhood of Nancy was passed with the Sparrows, and she was oftener called by their name than her own. The whole family connection was composed of people so little given to letters that it is hard to determine the proper names and relationships of the younger members said the tangle of traditional cousinships."—Abraham Lincoln, a History, by Nicolay and Hay, vol. 1, p. 24.

Writer's Versions.

This statement was undisputed until 1909, when Lea and Hutchinson published their "Ancestry of Lincoln" and Mrs. Caroline Hanks Hutcheon published her "Nancy Hanks." These produced the will of Joseph Hanks, presumed to be the father of these daughters, and there was no Lucy mentioned in it. A very elaborate family tree was published changing all the sisters excepting Polly; she still was left as the wife of Jesse Friend. Elizabeth was declared to be the wife of Levi Hall. Thomas Sparrow was married to Elizabeth Shipley and there were declared to have been the par-

ents of Nancy Sparrow, who married Charles Friend, brother of James, and these are alleged to have been the parents of James Friend, whose subsequent adoption of the name of Hanks" was responsible for no end of confusion. Miss Fairbell accepted this theory, and proclaimed it widely. As for Lucy there was no such sister; and Nancy was declared to have been the mother of Abraham Lincoln.

The motives of those who attempted to substitute this theory for the Hanks tradition were wholly good, tho some one who furnished some part of the information cannot be held guiltless of something worse than carelessness."

Hanks Family.

Dr. Barton then proceeded to an intricate and detailed analysis of the evidence as preserved in the Hanks family, and declared that there must have been a fourth and older daughter, married and away from home, at the time of the making of the will of Joseph Hanks, and for some reason omitted from it. Joseph Hanks was an illiterate and a dying man, and the will was made by a lawyer, who, either by mistake or for some reason not stated gave the names of only three daughters, and devised a bequest to each of them. He continued: "In an obscure corner of Kentucky, far back from railroads, is a section known as 'the cut-off' which a legistature separated from one county and added to another, with the benevolent purpose of making two Democratic counties where formerly there was one. There reside literally hundreds of descendants of the president's grandmother, including some first cousins of Abraham Lincoln. They have read no books about him, and have never been interviewed except by me, and by those who are working for me. And every one of them knows himself to be related to Abraham Lincoln, and they know how. Separated from the Hanks family and the Hanks tradition by hundreds of miles of distance and a full century of time, their family Bibles confirm the Hanks tradition at every disputed point.

The Lost Grandmother.

"Not only so, but I have been able to secure copies of marriage banns of all the original Sparrow family, and most of the Hanks family, including the marriage of Thomas Sparrow not to Elizabeth Shipley, who appears never to have existed, but to Elizabeth Hanks; and they were not the parents of Dennis Hanks, whose mother was the Nancy named in the will of Joseph Hanks. As for Lucy, I have her marriage bond in photostat, and a certificate of her legal marriage. She was married to Henry Sparrow, a revolutionary soldier and an honest man, and she brought up her children well, including two ministers of the gospel. She is no disgrace to the family. She had somewhat superior advantages. Her father and her brothers could not write, but she, like all the Hankses who could write at all, wrote with a flourish. Thus do we restore to her rightful place on the line of the president's ancestors, Lucy Hanks, Abraham Lincoln's lost grandmother."

Rev. Mr. Barton noted that "this is a paper which it would be very easy to misinterpret and any report of it should recognize the character of the essay as a severe and earnest piece of historical investigation, which has occupied years of industry. He stated he was sensitive lest attempts at a brief statement of certain of the conclusions might misinterpret the intent and spirit of the paper."

Claims History Identifies Lincoln's "Lost Grandmother" *Washington Star, Feb. 5, 1923*

By the Associated Press.
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In producing the two grandmothers Rev. Mr. Barton states that "all the biographies of Abraham Lincoln are incorrect as to his paternal grandmother."

Extract From Dr. Barton's Paper.

Dr. Barton said, in part: "I have promised to bring to this meeting the lost grandmother of Abraham Lincoln. I am prepared to produce not one but two. All the biographies of Abraham Lincoln are incorrect as to his paternal grandmother. She was not Mary Shipley, as Nicolay and Hay, on the authority of J. R. Hall, have told us; nor was she of the Boone family, as Gideon Welles, Lincoln's Secretary of War, maintained. Nor was the mother Abraham Lincoln twice married, once to Mary Shipley, mother of his two eldest sons, and later to Bathsheba Herring, mother of Thomas. The marriage licenses of Virginia sometimes gave the name of the bridegroom and omitted that of the bride. So was it with the record of Abraham Lincoln, the President's grandfather. His license to marry was issued in Rockingham county, Virginia, June 2, 1770, and the bride is not named.

"When Abraham Lincoln was selling his farm in Virginia, February 13, 1780, preparatory to removal to Kentucky, his wife Bathsheba signed the deed, and on September 5, 1781, relinquished her dower rights. She was not well at the time and could not ride twelve miles to the court house, so a commission was sent to acknowledge her relinquishment.

"It has been supposed that Bathsheba was a second wife, Mary Shipley being the first. Then, when it was found that this could not be, it was supposed that Bathsheba died in 1781 and Abraham Lincoln married Mary Shipley as his second wife. Last summer, in a pile of old tax lists in the basement of the old Capitol at Frankfort, the secretary of the Kentucky Historical Society discovered a list of Washington county for 1780, which shows that Bathsheba Lincoln survived her husband.

"Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the President, was murdered by Indians, not in 1781, as the President thought but in May, 1786, and his widow long survived him. Her name then is the paternal grandmother of President Lincoln, Bathsheba, whom the pioneer Abraham Lincoln married in Rockingham county, Va., in 1770. The mother of all his children, his one and only wife. All the books are in error; they must henceforth be corrected. This is the first announcement of the discovery.

"But Bathsheba (whose name may or may not have been Herring) is not the grandmother we are setting out to discover. We include her for good measure. We are after the mother of Nancy Hanks. Here we confront a historical problem of the very greatest difficulty and one upon which many books have been written by words without knowledge.

"Hanks Tradition" Cited.

"The Hanks tradition," as given by Leonor Herring, and accepted as Nicolay and Hay, is thus given:

"Mrs. Lincoln's mother was named Lucy Hanks; her sisters were Betty, Polly and Nancy, who married Thomas Sparrow, Jesse Friend and Levi Hall. The childhood of Nancy was passed with the Sparrows and she was often called by this name rather than her own. The whole family connection was composed of people so little given to letters that it is hard to determine the proper names and relationships of the younger members, said the tangle of traditional cousinships." ("Abraham Lincoln: A History," by Nicolay and Hay, vol. 1, p. 24.)

This statement was undisturbed until 1908, when Lea and Hutcheson published their "Ancestry of Lincoln" and Mrs. Caroline Hanks Hiltchcock published her "Nancy Hanks." These produced the will of Joseph Hanks, presumed to be the father of these daughters, and there was no Lucy mentioned in it. A very elaborate family tree was published, changing all the sisters excepting Polly, and still was left as the wife of Jesse Friend. Elizabeth was declared to be the wife of Levi Hall. Thomas Sparrow was married to Elizabeth Shipley and these were declared to have been the parents of Nancy Sparrow, who married Charles Friend, brother of James, and these are alleged to have been the parents of Dennis Friend, whose subsequent adoption of the name of Hanks was responsible for no end of confusion. Miss Tarbell accepted this theory and proclaimed it widely. As for Lucy, there was no such sister, and Nancy was declared to have been the mother of Abraham Lincoln.

The motives of those who attempted to substitute this theory for the Hanks tradition were wholly good, though some one who furnished some part of the information cannot be held guilty of something worse than carelessness.

Traced to "Obscure Corner."

Dr. Barton continues: "In an obscure corner of Kentucky, far back from railroads, is a section known as the cut-off, which a legislature separated from one county and added to another, with the provision

purpose of making two democratic counties where formerly there was one. There reside literally hundreds of descendants of the President's grandmother, including some first cousins of Abraham Lincoln. They have read no books about him and have never been interviewed, except by me, and by those who are working for me. And every one of them knows himself to be related to Abraham Lincoln, and they know how. Separated from the Hanks family and the Hanks tradition by hundreds of miles of distance and a full century of time, their family histories confirm the Hanks tradition at every disputed point.

"Not only so, but I have been able to secure copies of marriage bonds of all the original Sparrow family and most of the Hanks family, including the marriage of Thomas Sparrow—not to Elizabeth Shipley, who appears never to have existed—but to Elizabeth Hanks; and they were not the parents of Dennis Hanks, whose mother was the Nancy named in the will of Joseph Hanks. As for Lucy, I have her marriage bond in photostatic, and a certificate of her legal marriage. She was married to Henry Sparrow, a revolutionary soldier and an honest man, and she brought up her children well, including two ministers of the gospel.

Rev. Mr. Barton noted that "this is a paper which it would be very easy to misinterpret and any report of it should recognize the character of the essay as a severe and earnest piece of historical investigation, which has occupied years of industry." He stated he was sending the last attempts at a full statement of certain of the conclusions might misinterpret the intent and spirit of the paper.

John H. Hanks

Nancy Hanks---Her Home In North Carolina

By Minnie Stowe Puett and Adelaide Smith Beard

The Charlotte Sun Nov 4 1923

"He is truly great who rises to greatness from profound obscurity."

There is no more wonderful truth in history than this statement, as the lives of many of the world's greatest men have borne witness. As Romulus and Remus came from the lair of the wolf to become the founders of Imperial Rome; as the great Napoleon arose from his humble Corsican cottage to be the ruler of Europe; so Abraham Lincoln lifted himself from a pioneer cabin to a place of supreme greatness, that is magnified as the years roll by.

His origin and rise to immortality embodies in itself, as has the life of no other person, the true spirit of American democracy. This principle has been ignored by the majority of historians, who have seemingly deemed it necessary to manufacture from their own imaginations an origin worthy of his greatness. This falacy is all too unnecessary, for the position that Lincoln now occupies in the hall of fame is secure beyond their ability to add to or to detract therefrom.

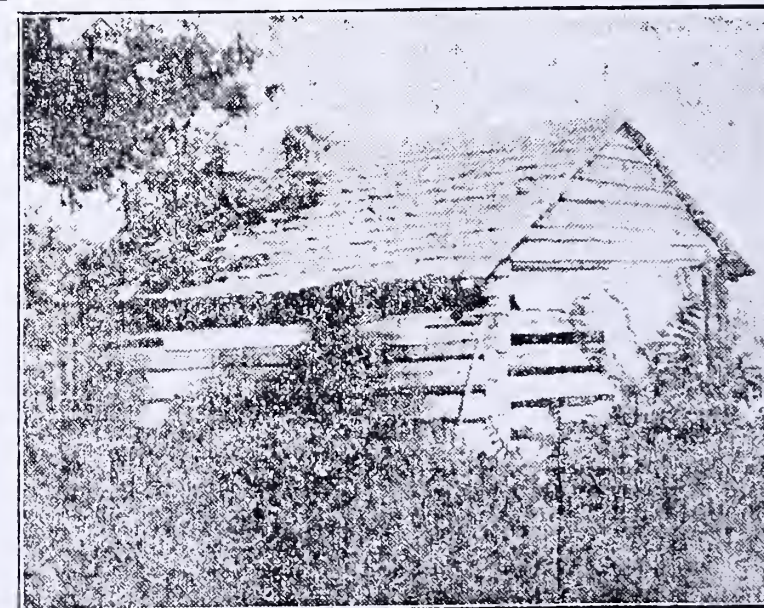
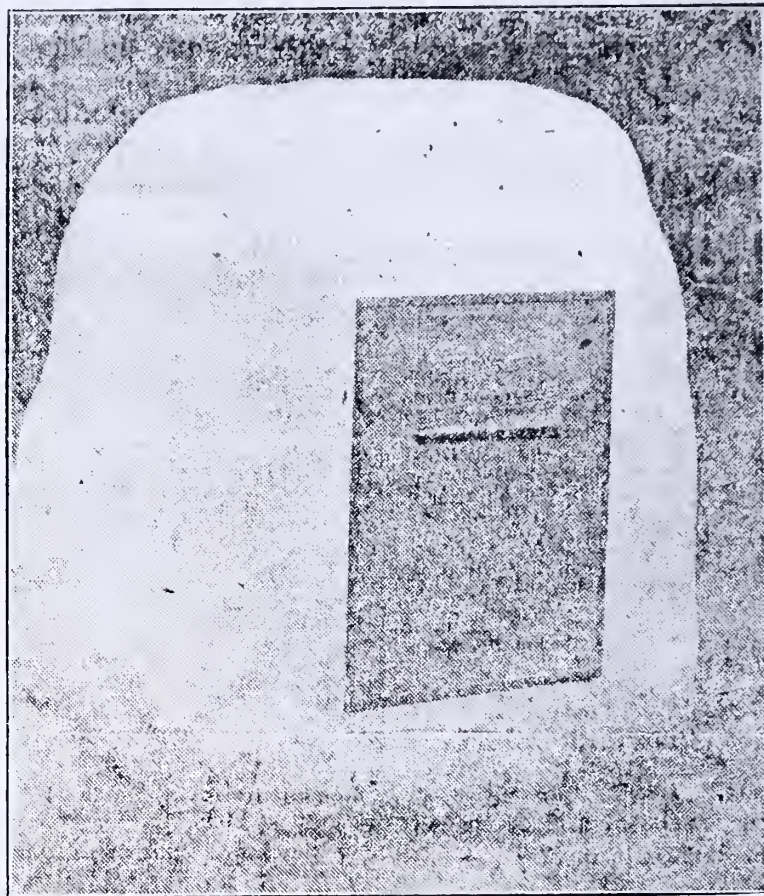
Little has ever been written concerning Nancy Hanks, Lincoln's mother, and the fact that she spent most of her early life in North Carolina has been unknown or ignored by his biographers. In an effort to preserve this truth to history, there has recently been erected near the town of Belmont, Gaston county, North Carolina, a monument on the site where stood her cabin home, near the banks of the Catawba.

The silver current of this river wends its way slowly through the verdant hills. From its mountain sources of ice cold springs; winning tribute from a thousand rills, it reigns a queenly river, matchless in its beauty and wonderful in its power. Along its flower enameled borders the dark brown Indians roamed in years gone by. Sapona, the great chief of the Catawbans, lighted his council fires on its banks. The Indians have gone forever, but their fame is kept immortal by the river which bears their name.

The beauty and fertility of the Catawba valley attracted many of the early settlers to this region, and their primitive homes were built on the hills overlooking the stream. In one of these little cabins lived a maiden whose name and life were destined to become of vital importance and enduring fame throughout the nation. She is described as having dark hair, sallow complexion, and gray eyes, and of sad and thoughtful countenance. Little else is known of her personality, but all the world knows her as Nancy Hanks, the mother of Abraham Lincoln.

According to local tradition Nancy Hanks was an orphan and came to North Carolina with her uncle, Dicky Hanks, when he moved here from Virginia. The first member of the Hanks family about whom anything is known was Benjamin Hanks, who came to Massachusetts from England, in 1699. One of his sons, William Hanks, moved to Virginia. He had a family of 12 children, his descendants forming a large settlement in Amelia county. Some of this family migrated to Kentucky, while other came to North Carolina.

Three members of the Hanks fam-



ily, two uncles and an aunt of Nancy Hanks, settled in Lincoln, now Gaston county, North Carolina, near the beginning of the nineteenth century. They were accompanied from Virginia by the orphan Nancy, who spent most of her girlhood here, with one of these uncles, Dicky Hanks. He was the ancestor of many of the present residents of

Gaston and Lincoln counties. He moved away from his home on the Catawba and lived in another part of the county, where he was afterwards burned to death. Much stress is laid by some historians on the will of one, Joseph Hanks, of Virginia and Kentucky, claiming that the Lucy Hanks named in his will,

was the mother of Nancy Hanks Lincoln. This could not have been true, since it is positively known that Dicky Hanks was Nancy's uncle and there is no Dicky or Richard Hanks mentioned in Joseph's will.

Nancy left her uncle's home while he still resided on the Catawba, and went to live in the western part of what was then Lincoln, now Rutherford county, North Carolina, near where the town of Rutherfordton stands today. Here she lived in the home of Abraham Enloe, going there for the purpose of assisting Mrs. Enloe with her household duties. She later went with his family to what is now Swain county, North Carolina.

Abraham Enloe is described as being of fine physique, tall, angular, with dark skin and coarse black hair. He was a leader in his community, being a man of naturally keen intellect and having an education much superior to his associates. His father was a school teacher and came to this country from Scotland, and personally educated his son. While Nancy was an inmate of the Enloe home, circumstances arose which caused Mrs. Enloe to insist that she be sent away, she was taken to Kentucky by relative of the family, whose home was in that state. These facts have been always known in the communities where she lived in Gaston, Rutherford and Swain counties, and many of the present members of the Enloe family acknowledge their truth.

The boulder pictured in this article was recently erected by the descendants of a former owner of the land on which it stands. He personally remembered the cabin and often pointed out this site as the home of Nancy and Dicky Hanks. That Nancy lived here and her subsequent life in North Carolina were both well known and undisputed in this community. On the fact of this boulder, which is of massive granite, is a bronze tablet bearing a replica of a frontier cabin and the following inscription: "This stone marks the site of the log cabin home of Dicky Hanks, an uncle of Nancy Hanks, mother of Abraham Lincoln. Nancy spent much of her girlhood here with her uncle." The foundation stones on which the boulder was placed were once part of the chimney of the original cabin. The logs of this cabin, rough hewn from virgin timber, have endured until today, and according to family tradition were rebuilt into another cabin still in use on this plantation.

At the foot of the hill on which was set this simple home, in the primeval forest, is a bubbling spring. A lone beach tree today stands guard over it. Can we not imagine the young Nancy wending her way down the hill to this quiet spot, where she quenched her thirst with the sparkling waters and searched its hidden depths for her mirrored reflection.

On viewing the magnificent monument which the nation recently erected on the potomac at Washington, to suitably commemorate the great Lincoln, let one thought be given the woman who shaped his young life, to Nancy Hanks, his mother.

Knowledge of Maternal Ancestry One of Lincoln's Life-Long Sorrows

Writer Presents Conclusion of 15 Years' Research—What Did Emancipator Know or Suspect?—Information Leads to Better Understanding of His Greatness—Martyred President Called His Mother a Genius

By HORACE GREEN

MANY persons consider it bad taste, if not sacrilege, to discuss Abraham Lincoln's maternal ancestry. This belief persists even though the true facts add, rather than detract, from the somber force of Lincoln's character. It persists in spite of the fact that such knowledge as Lincoln had exerted a profound effect upon his mind.

A few weeks before the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates, in 1858, the Great Emancipator came across a copy of the life of the English statesman, Burke. After a brief perusal the future President threw the volume down in disgust. To William H. Herndon, his law partner and oft maligned biographer, he said:—

"I've read enough of it. It's like all the others—not only misleading, but false. Billy, I've wondered why book publishers and merchants don't have blank biographies on their shelves, so that if a man dies his heirs or friends can purchase one already written, but with blanks. These blanks they can fill up with rosy sentences. . . . In most instances they (the biographies) commemorate a lie and cheat posterity of the truth."

This article, after 15 years of intermittent inquiry, presents, in the briefest form, facts corroborated by patient investigators nearly three-quarters of a century after Lincoln's death, and deductions from those facts

arrived at by the writer. It does not discuss the question of ancestry as such. It is confined to the question of what Lincoln knew or suspected. It is proper that the world should know this in order to understand more clearly the burdens under which the great emancipator staggered, and to love better that strange genius who knew not whence his greatness came.

Lincoln's Sorrow

Lincoln's deepest personal sorrow, based partly on ignorance, is among the remarkable stories of history. It is established beyond doubt that Abraham Lincoln lived and died knowing that his mother Nancy Hanks was the natural daughter of one Lucy Hanks and a rich Virginia farmer or planter, whose identity has never been discovered and from whom Lincoln believed he inherited greatness. After the birth of Nancy, Lucy Hanks later married Henry Sparrow. There has also been recently established the inescapable conclusion that Lincoln lived and died unable to prove that his father and mother had been married, and with presumable knowledge of the controversy as to whether he, the President, was or was not the son of Thomas Lincoln.

Let there be no misapprehension. Lincoln's mother was of unfortunate parentage; her own character was above reproach. It is not advanced that the Civil war President was "base born," to use the phrase of his ir-

repressible cousin, Dennis Hanks, who himself qualified under the heading. On the contrary, not only were Thomas and Nancy Hanks married; but the recent researches of Rev. William E. Barton establish conclusively that none other than Thomas Lincoln was the father of Abraham.

The tragedy is that Lincoln was unable to obtain documentary evidence with which to counteract insinuation to the contrary. In later days when politics produced malicious gossip the subject was one of considerable depression to the President. Dejected by the little he knew, he was loth to inquire further.

Marriage Certificate Discovered

Lincoln died in ignorance. But several years later, the marriage certificate—in all probability the original—was finally discovered. To many of us that particular document would be of little import one way or another, when when taking into consideration the customs of the wilderness where Thomas and Nancy grew up, and in view of the fact that they were recognized by the community as common law man and wife and, until Nancy's death, so lived for 13 years.

In his private life Abraham Lincoln suffered two other permeating sorrows. The first of these has already been treated by this writer under the title "The Love Affairs of Lincoln—A Study of Suppressed Episodes," in which he set forth the fal-

lacy of the popular contention that Lincoln was an uncouth man's man, in whose life women played a negligible part. The story of Ann Rutledge's death on the eve of their marriage is too generally known to require repetition.

The second burden, generally admitted, lay in the temperamental differences between himself and his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln. Neither was to blame. Both rallied around their community of interest; the children and Abraham's future success.

Let us skip the love affairs and marriage—which, in manner Kipling, is another story—and rivet our attention on Lincoln's ancestors, and particularly his reaction to such knowledge as he had. About five years ago the present writer came to the conclusion that on the subject of parentage, Nicolay and Hay had written what approximates propaganda, in the fear of offending public taste, and the Lincoln family. The writer did not then know of Dr Barton's painstaking investigations. He did not take too seriously any of the seven stories of Lincoln's sire, nor the particular one concerning Abraham Enloe. Even had we believed that belief would have been dissipated after Dr Barton's work whose investigations have perhaps added more recent knowledge to the Lincoln background than any other in the American language.

Scripps's Secret

What did Lincoln believe? One clew is contained in the memory of John L. Scripps of the Chicago Tribune, long since dead with a secret he refused to tell. Upon Lincoln's nomination for the Presidency in 1860, Scripps rushed to Springfield to prepare a biography. Upon Scripps the guant rail-splitter made a lasting impression. Lincoln confided in this man as he had in few others. But what?

"Why, Scripps," said Lincoln, "it is a great piece of folly to attempt to make anything out of me or my early life. It can all be condensed into a single sentence, and that sentence you will find in Grey's Elegy:—

"The short and simple annals of the poor."

This much has often been quoted. Now comes the crux of the matter, revealed in Herndon's biography, both in the extant and suppressed versions. Soon after Lincoln's death, Herndon received a letter from Scripps, which said:—

"Lincoln seemed to be painfully impressed with the extreme poverty of his early surroundings, and the utter absence of all romantic and heroic elements. He communicated to me some facts concerning his ancestry, which he did not wish to have published then, and which I have never spoken of or alluded to before."

"What were the facts that Scripps had in mind we do not know; for Scripps died without revealing them, publicly or privately, directly or by insinuation, to any living person, even so far as can be gathered, to any member of his family."

There is no question, however, that a part of the facts related to Lincoln's unmarried grandmother and to his unknown or lost grandfather. For after the facts had already been published by Ward H. Lamon (Lincoln's later law partner) and through other sources, Herndon, 27 years later, revealed the following.

Conversation With Herndon

"On the subject of his ancestry and origin, I only remember one time when Mr Lincoln ever referred to it. It was about 1850, when he and I were driving in his one-horse buggy to the court in Menard county, Illinois. The suit we were going to try was one in which we were likely, either directly or collaterally, to touch upon the subject of hereditary traits. During the ride he spoke, for the first time in my hearing of his mother, dwelling on her characteristics, and mentioning or enumerating what qualities he inherited from her. He said, among

other things, that she was the illegitimate daughter of Lucy Hanks and a well-bred Virginia farmer or planter; and he argued that from this last source came his power of analysis, his logic, his mental activity, his ambition, and all the qualities that distinguished him from the other members and descendants of the Hanks family.

His theory in discussing this matter of hereditary traits had been that, for certain reasons illegitimate children are oftentimes sturdier and brighter than those born in lawful wedlock; and in his case, he believed that his better nature and finer qualities came from this broad-minded, unknown Virginian. The revelation—painful as it was—called up the recollection of his mother, and, as the buggy jolted over the road, he added ruefully, 'God bless my mother; all that I am or ever hope to be I owe to her'; and immediately lapsed into silence. Our interchange of ideas ceased, and we rode on for some time without exchanging a word. He was sad and absorbed. Burying himself in thought, and mus-

ing no doubt over the disclosures, he had just made, he drew round him a barrier which I feared to penetrate. His words and melancholy tone made a deep impression on me. It was an experience I can never forget."

In this instance Lincoln doubtless referred to his own mother Nancy. In later years, as known, he meant by that phrase his devoted stepmother Sarah Bush Lincoln, to whom he also owed much that was of value in his upbringing.

What Lincoln Wrote

Another clue to Lincoln's state of mind is contained in the autobiography furnished in 1859, to Jesse W. Fell. In his own hand he wrote what covers an entire printed page concerning the Lincoln side of the family. (The subject of Lia M. Tarbell's volume). My parents, he says, came of "undistinguished, or second Virginia families." But his mother he devotes the single pathetic sentence "My mother, who died in my infancy, was of a family of the name of Hanks, some of whom now remain in Adams, some others in Macon, counties, Illinois." He does not even mention her given name.

With the exception of that in the family Bible Lincoln made, so far as can be known, only one other written statement concerning his mother. On May 28, 1860, in answer to the query of Samuel Hayscraft, clerk of the county court at Elizabethtown, he wrote a letter of 180 words. Concerning his mother the reply was curt. "You are mistaken about my mother. Her maiden name was Nancy Hanks. But my step-mother (Mrs Johnston) is still living."

The record of the family Bible with facsimiles of Abraham's entries has been preserved, and is familiar to most readers; but unfortunately that part which perhaps contained the entry of Thomas and Nancy's marriage has been lost. It is safe to state that one of three things must have occurred. Either the event was not entered, or that part of the page was lost through age. There remains the faint possibility that it was torn out by some scurrilous person.

Brutal Gossip

When Samuel Hayscraft learned Abraham was the son of Nancy, rather than of the step-mother, Sarah Bush Lincoln, he started search for the original marriage record. He was unsuccessful. He could not find no witness. His failure became known. It spread abroad. It was presumably that failure which, in the campaign of 1861, revived the brutal gossip of Lincoln's illegitimacy. Undoubtedly the stories reached the President's ear.

From Herndon's Unpublished Notes

Dr Barton has produced an unpublished tract from among Herndon's notes, and probably written between

1886 and 1871. Excerpts are worth quoting:

"Dennis, sly, shrewd Dennis (Hanks) wishes to cover up the truth, smother up the sad fact, if it be such. Lincoln boldly and truthfully speaks out."

"And now the question comes, Who was the father of Nancy Hanks, Lincoln's mother?"

"No one need for this matter rely on what I say or have said, that Lincoln told me his mother was illegitimate. He told me that his mother was an illegitimate child of a Virginia planter or large farmer. However, the record tells its own story, and speaks for itself; and had, not the record spoken out, it is more than probable that I should have kept the secret forever, though I was not forbidden to reveal the fact after Lincoln's death."

"I never uttered this to mortal man directly or indirectly till after the death of Lincoln."

"And now again, who was the father of Nancy Hanks, the mother of the President of the United States?"

"Will some gentleman, some lady, kindly tell me?"

"The father of Nancy Hanks is no other than a Virginia planter, large farmer, of the highest and best blood of Virginia; and it is just here that Nancy got her good, rich blood, tinged with genius. Mr Lincoln told me that she was a genius, and that he got his mind from her."

Woman of Fine Mind, Excellent Heart

"Nancy Hanks Lincoln was a woman of very fine cast of mind, an excellent heart, quick in sympathy, a natural lady, a good neighbor, a firm friend. . . ."

"It is quite probable that a knowledge of her origin had made her dominant and desperate. She was very sensitive, and sometimes gloomy. Who will tell me the amount and influence of her feelings in this matter, caused by her origin? Let the world forgive her, and bless her, is my constant prayer."

"There is abundant data that Herndon was honestly misled by evidence of Lincoln's illegitimacy. He died having changed his mind, and having said: 'I admit that all things are not clear to me.' But one fact stands

out. Herndon was right as to Lincoln's unknown grandfather. And there can be no doubt that such gloomy thoughts hovering in the background like a bank of fog, often the morbid spirit of the Great Emancipator."

POCKET PERISCOPE

By Thomas James de la Hunt

TO PATRIOTIC MEN, women and children in The Pocket, early February brings perennial reminder of Abraham Lincoln, of what he owed to Indiana and what Indiana owes to him. For authentic information directly bearing upon those plastic years of youth which moulded his character for maturity—even for immortality, it is not too much to say, —the outside world is now looking to southwestern Indiana's pioneer environment; and that trenchant phrase "the Lincoln Inquiry," originating in The Pocket, has become during the last half-dozen years a nation-wide interrogatory.

A fine and gracious courtesy was extended to The Pocket in December, 1924, at the sixth annual Indiana History Conference (inaugurated by the "Society of Indiana Pioneers," when the president of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society was invited to serve as chairman over a highly significant session in the series of meetings; its outstanding feature an address on "Abraham Lincoln's Ancestry," by the Rev. Dr. William E. Barton of Oak Park, Chicago, an authority whose research work on his chosen topic has been stupendous.

The chairman through whom southwestern Indiana was thus recognized by Dr. Christopher Bush Coleman, director of the State Historical Commission, felt himself personally honored in such an opportunity for paying his individual tribute to the distinguished Lincoln biographer. Two years before, to the exact date, it had been his privilege to hear the first delivery of Dr. Barton's scholarly paper on "The Lincoln Family in their Old Kentucky Home," when read before the Filson Club in Louisville. Some months later, an autographed presentation copy in brochure form was a gift from Dr. Barton to the editor of The Pocket Periscope and was reviewed for the pleasure of the column's readers in February, 1924.

Chairmanship over an assembly representing the intellectual elite of Indiana was but the glory of an hour; presidential honors come and go, in a society desiring to avoid the contingency of "third term" complications; but the conductor of a column knows no vacation. Hence, in this third capacity, it becomes possible now to present to readers of The Courier and Journal a few pertinent excerpts from Dr. Barton's Indianapolis address, making choice of some which affect the phase of "Abraham Lincoln's Lost Grandmothers," since this immediately concerns The Pocket, through reference to certain graves in Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Park in Spencer county.

Before considering the Hanks family, however, it is worth mentioning here that Dr. Barton has traced the paternal descent of President Lincoln with rather remarkable precision through seven generations of the Lincoln name (with all its variants of spelling), from 1619 to 1809, from pioneer Massachusetts to pioneer Kentucky, from Ilhingham to Hodgenville. The links of this chain, given in full detail in the Indiana History Bulletin for January, 1925, Vol. II, No. 4, may be thus condensed: Samuel, of Hingham, 1619-1690; Mordecai, of Scituate, 1657-1727; Mordecai, of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, 1668-1736; John, of Virginia, 1716-1788; Abraham, the Kentucky Pioneer, 1744-1786; Thomas, 1778-1851; Abraham the President, 1808-1865.

"If this were all, it would be a pitiful story. But it is not all. A good man had faith in Lucy Hanks. Henry Sparrow was born in Mecklenburg county, Virginia, October 9, 1765, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. In his later years he drew a pension, and his date and place of birth and his military service are of record. He migrated to Kentucky with his parents. James Wright Sparrow and Mary Sparrow. His father died May 18, 1789, and his nuncupative will named Henry as his eldest son. Henry assumed the oversight of his younger brothers and his sisters, and the care of his mother. He also made love to Lucy Hanks, and on April 26, 1790, a license was issued for their marriage. A period of probation followed, and Lucy proved true.

"Almost a year later they were married, April 3, 1791, by John Bailey, a well known Baptist preacher. Lucy Hanks was a young woman of no little force of character. Her father, brothers and husband could not write, but she wrote a bold hand with a flourish.

"The two families of Sparrow and Hanks apparently had very little to do with each other until the death of Joseph Hanks, the offended father, but after his death they came together and, on October 17, 1798, Thomas Sparrow, brother of Henry, was licensed to marry Elizabeth Hanks, sister of Lucy. This worthy couple had no children of their own. But they took as their own Nancy, the little daughter of Lucy; and Dennis, the illegitimate son of their sister Nancy, the aunt of the president's mother; and brought them up as their own.

"This couple, the only parents whom the President's mother ever knew and by whose name she was called more frequently than by her own, removed to Indiana to be near her, died of the same disease which carried her away, and are buried beside her within the inclosure at Lincoln City. Fiction writers of the past twenty-five years, posing as sober historians, tell us of Nancy Hanks' adoption by her 'kind Uncle Richard Berry' and her 'dear Aunt Lucy Berry,' but the real people who adopted her are buried with her in Indiana.

"They were a humble couple, but they did their duty faithfully by the mother of President Lincoln. They gave her better educational advantages than they themselves had enjoyed, and brought her up virtuously and religiously. Some modest stone ought to designate their graves and the graves of the other uncle and aunt, Levi and Nancy Hanks Hall, who lie with her in the beautiful little park in Spencer county.

"As for Lucy, the girl with the wayward youth, she lived well after her marriage, as for a year before it. She became the mother of eight additional children and her descendants constitute the largest group of living blood relations of Abraham Lincoln now alive. They are honest, God-fearing people to this day, for they have been true to her teaching. Her eight children she brought up well and two of her sons became ministers of the Gospel.

"The misinformation so diligently broadcast in the past twenty-five years has had this effect, among others, that the people of Indiana would not have known how to mark the four other graves in the inclosure with that of Nancy Hanks Lincoln

Abraham, grandfather of the President, had been given a license to marry, in Augusta county, Virginia, June 7, 1770, but unfortunately the bride's name was not of record, a circumstance which led some biographers with greater zeal than discretion to fabricate a wholly mythical Mary Shipley and to have Abraham twice married, one Bathsheba Herring being mother of his offspring.

In 1922, however, Dr. Barton, with the efficient co-operation of Mrs. Joubert Taylor Cannon, secretary of the Kentucky State Historical Society, discovered in the Old Capitol at Frankfort official documents that completely revolutionized all theories previously held concerning the alleged two marriages of the pioneer Abraham. No vestige of proof was found of the existence of a "Mary Shipley," but abundant evidence of Bathsheba (Herring) Lincoln as his wife and widow. "She was the 'Widow Lincoln,' who contributed a gun to fight the Indians who had killed her husband," says Dr. Barton, "who wept above his grave and undertook the care of his five children. She it was whom the grandchildren, both those in Kentucky and those in Illinois, remembered as living to a great age, and whom the latter recalled as 'Granny Basheby.' She has now her proper place in the Lincoln family."

Thus verifying the one 'lost grandmother,' Dr. Barton proceeds in his quest for the other, a task even more interesting, perhaps, and decidedly more involved, since the major portion of what had been written regarding the ancestry of Nancy Hanks is unreliable. "Family traditions concerning her are not based on written records and are confused by reason of overlapping generations and a marked tendency to the duplication of names," is Dr. Barton's verdict.

"The simple question involved is, was Nancy Hanks, the President's mother, the daughter or the granddaughter of Joseph Hanks, who died in Nelson county, Kentucky, in 1793? Abraham Lincoln answered this question without knowing that it was ever to rise. In the campaign biography which he wrote in 1860 for John Locke Scripps, (which is preserved in manuscript in the Library of Congress,) he told of his fatboat journey to New Orleans in 1831, and of John Hanks as one of his associates. He said: 'He is the same John Hanks who now engineers the "rail enterprise" at Decatur, and is a first cousin of Abraham's mother.'

"John Hanks was born at Falls of Rough, in Grayson county, Kentucky, February 9, 1802, and died July 12, 1890. He was the son of William and Elizabeth (Hall) Hanks, and the grandson of Joseph and Nancy Hanks. If the President's mother had been a daughter of Joseph Hanks, she would have been, not John Hanks' first cousin, but his aunt. We have other proof in abundance, but for our present purpose the testimony of Abraham Lincoln will suffice.

"We have discovered one grandmother for Abraham Lincoln and we now have occasion to find another. We are to find the daughter whom Joseph Hanks sorrowfully omitted from his will, Lucy Hanks, the mother of Nancy, the mother of the President. It is a long story and it has cost great labor, but this is the result:

"Joseph Hanks had eight children whom he named in his will, and in addition had one daughter, Lucy, presumably the oldest, whom he disinherited. Of her waywardness after the removal of the family to Kentucky, we have altogether convincing proof; and of her waywardness in Virginia the proof is the birth of Nancy.

at Lincoln City. That group of graves was identified on the testimony of Dennis Hanks who, although he could lie a little when he deemed it necessary, was not as a liar the same class with most of his tractors.

"Jesse W. Welk of Greencastle, his recent book, 'The Real Lincoln,' tells the truth about those graves and should help to clear confusion of much that has been written about Nancy Hanks and relations. It would be historically accurate, and in every way fitting that the State of Indiana should place small stones at the head of other graves, or affix bronze markers to the railing, informing visitors to the park at Lincoln City that within the inclosure surrounding the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, the bodies of her two aunts and her husbands; Levi and Nancy Hanks Hall, and Thomas and Elizabeth Hanks Sparrow; the latter couple foster-parents who were faithful to her, even unto death."

Dennis Hanks, born ten years earlier than President Lincoln, on the south fork of Nolin near Hodgenville, was one of the latest survivors of his generation, living until October 21, 1892, when his death occurred in Paris, Illinois, at the home of his daughter, Nancy Hanks Hoff, whose mother had been a daughter of Sally (Burr) Johnston Lincoln, the President's stepmother.

A clipping from the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, dated October 18, 1892, reports Dennis Hanks' death, resulting from injuries suffered while attending an "Emancipation Day" picnic a few weeks earlier, from which he never rallied. Up to that time the health of the venerable man had been good, the article reports, and he had kept well posted on current events of the day.

"He had a most retentive memory and nothing gave him more pleasure than to talk of Abraham Lincoln, tell stories of his early boyhood, in which he took great delight, one in which he saved young Lincoln from drowning. It was in Spencer county, Indiana. Young Lincoln then but a lad, attempted to cross swollen stream. He soon got beyond his depth and the rapid current carrying him down for the last time when Hanks, with almost the strength of a giant, sprang into stream and rescued from a watery grave the boy who was afterward to figure so prominently in ameliorating and bettering the condition of four million slaves and many millions more of his fellow men."

Dennis Hanks treasured up to death a silver watch which Lincoln had carried during his early professional struggles in Illinois. It had been a gift to Hanks in 1841 when he went to Washington as intercessor for some of the participants in a riot known as "Charleston Rebellion," in Cook county, Illinois, an affray in which Dr. York, a prominent citizen, had been killed. The case looked hopeless for release of the men imprisoned, and it was only the President's personal affection for Hanks which induced him to intervene after facts had been laid before him.

Jan 4, 1936

Miss Marie Menaugh
Harrodsburg, Ky.

My dear Miss Menaugh:

It was very kind
of you to remember Mrs. Warren and me
at the Christmas season with a greeting
card.

Aside from bringing the greetings of
the season it served to remind me that I
had not fulfilled the promise which I
made upon leaving Harrodsburg, that I
would send you a signed statement as to
the absence of the Lucy Parks certificate
among the other Sherrington papers.

I am glad to enclose the affirmation
and you may file it away for future refer-
ence if it is needed.

I am now working in the old records at
the Indiana State House gathering source
material for an Indiana History of the
Lincolns.

May you and your father have a very
successful year in your tasks at the Court
House and much happiness in your social
contacts.

Sincerely yours,

AN AFFIRMATION OF LOUIS A. WARREN

To whom it may concern:

This statement is set forth to allow the undersigned to affirm that he was in Harrodsburg Kentucky County Clerk's office during the week of August 30, 1936 and visited the Office of the County Clerk of Mercer.

He further states that while there he was handed an envelope by the clerk containing some marriage documents of the Sparrow family, for the purpose of making copies.

He also affirms that the envelope did not contain the certificate signed by Lucy Hanks which should have been lodged with the Henry Sparrow - Lucy Hanks marriage bond.

He further affirms that he does not know where the Lucy Hanks certificate is, or in whose possession it may be.

Signed

[Signature]

MERCER COUNTY COURT

DR. T. L. MENAUGH, CLERK

HARRODSBURG, KY.

January 6, 1926

Dr. Louis A Warren
Zionsville, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:-

The card was not sent with the intention of reminding you about the affirmation concerning the certificate, but I had intended writing you about the results, rather non-results from the letter which I wrote Dr. Barton, for I have not received a reply.

Do you suppose the letter offended him ? or perhaps he was away and did not receive the letter, at any rate it was not returned to me.

Have you a suggestion to make, I really think the affidavits should be filed here, and we appreciate you sending yours, I will file it immediately with the Hanks-Sparrow papers.

I sincerely wish you very best of success with your Indiana History and that I may have the pleasure of comparing it with your Kentucky History.

Oh yes, I finished my search, thru the remaining boxes, in about three days after you were here and did not find the Lucey Hanks certificate.

Yours very truly,

Marie Menaugh.

September 11, 1936

Dr. T. L. Menaugh
County Clerk
Mercer County, Kentucky

My dear Mr. Menaugh:

Upon returning home from Harrodsburg I wrote Dr. Barton relative to the missing papers in the Sparrow papers, and I am glad to enclose his letter which I feel relieves him from any responsibility in the matter.

You will note that Miss Mary Stephenson recieved them from him and evidently returned the envelope to office containing the ones that were shown me on my last visit.

The controversy over this Sparrow question can only be settled by the preservation of the original document so you see how important it is. As soon as you have it in your possession I wish you would let me know as I must see it, and before my book comes out on September 24 if possible.

Will you please return the letter and photostat copy, as soon as you are through with them. The photostat copy is one made by Dr. Barton from the certificate that is now missing which belongs in the Henry Sparrow - Lucy Henke marriage papers.

Thanking for your many courtesies during my visits to Harrodsburg and regretting the inconvenience I am causing you, I am,

Yours truly,

October 7, 1936

Dr. T. L. Menaugh
County Clerk,
Mercer County, Ky

My dear Mr. Menaugh:

On September 11 I wrote to you with reference to the Lucy Hanks certificate, and enclosed a letter which I had received from Dr. William F. Barton with reference to the same. I am wondering if you have received the paper at your office by this time.

I shall probably be in Kentucky the last of next week and am very anxious to come to Harrodsburg if the paper is now available. It means very much to me to see the original copy, and it would be a great service on your part if you could arrange to have the certificate returned. By the wording of Dr. Barton's letter it must be in Harrodsburg.

Will you kindly let me know at once what has been done about securing the record, as I have already made three trips to Harrodsburg for the purpose of seeing this paper.

If you can write to me by next Monday morning I should receive the information in time for me to make the trip the last of the week.

Thanking you for past favors I am

Sincerely yours,

June 13, 1928

Miss Marie Menough
Harrodsburg, Ky.

My dear Miss Menough:

I chanced to pick up a Lexington, Kentucky Paper recently while passing through Kentucky and read an item which lead me to believe that the Harrodsburg Court House had been destroyed by fire.

Can you give me any information without taking too much of your time as to how serious the fire was and whether or not the records were saved.

You will be pleased to learn of my new office which gives me a very fine opportunity to continue my researches.

Remembering your kindness to me during my visits to Harrodsburg and your special interest in the attempt to find the Lucy Hanks document has prompted me to write to you for this information.

Has the Lucy Hanks certificate ever been found or has there been any new developments in its disappearance. Miss Tarbell wrote to me about it a short time ago and I told her that I was sure you would have advised me if it had been found.

Thanking you again for your interest, I am most sincerely yours,

Louis A.

MERCER COUNTY COURT

DR. T. L. MENAUGH, CLERK

HARRODSBURG, KY.

June 15, 1928

Mr. Louis A. Warren
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sir:-

It is with great pleasure that I tell you that our (the court house) records were not destroyed, not a single record in the County Clerks office was damaged; however the building was badly damaged, almost a complete loss.

The Lucy Hanks certificate has not been found at least it has not made its appearance here, some few people have asked to see that particular record, and it is rather embarrassing to us for the people have seen the print in Dr. Barton's History.

I am sure that you felt great concern about the records when you read of the fire, and I am glad to be able to tell you that we were so fortunate, for the building can be replaced even though at the present time it seems hard in a very few years the cost will be forgotten, where if the records were destroyed that would always be felt, and could never be replaced.

Yours very truly,

Marie Menaugh

June 19, 1938 .

Miss Marie M^{rs} enough
Harrodsburg, Ky

My dear Miss M^{rs} enough:

I am very glad to learn that the records at Harrodsburg were not destroyed, as I can think of nothing in possession of the county more valuable than its records.

Just as soon as your records are available again I want to come to Harrodsburg and spend two or three days and go still further into the question of Lincoln's ancestry which I feel will eventually be settled by records on file in the Harrodsburg Court House.

I have had several letters with reference to the missing Lucy Hanks certificate and you may feel sure that I have made it plain that it was not due to any negligence on the part of your office, and that you have done all in your power to find it.

I am enclosing two publications which will tell you something of my association with the Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.

Respectfully yours,

MERCER COUNTY COURT

DR. T. L. MENAUGH, CLERK

HARRODSBURG, KY.

November 13, 1929

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Fort Wayne, Indiana

My dear Dr. Warren:-

We appreciate very much your interest in the outcome of the election, and I am sorry ~~to~~ that it is necessary to tell you that my father lost in the August primary.

I enjoyed the bulletin and indeed I think it much better to bring to light now, the fact that the Lucy Hanks certificates have disappeared, than later.

If you should mention the fact that the certificates were loaned to Dr. Barton, please state that they were loaned to him by the Fiscal Court and not by my father ~~or~~ nor by the Clerk.

I have understood that these were not the first nor only papers that had disappeared thru Dr. Barton. He (Dr. Barton) made an address here this summer and it all but created a scene.

Yours very truly,

Marie Menaugh.

Lucy Hanks

By GEORGE LAWRENCE ANDREWS

Dark, dream-eyed Lucy was the mother of a girl called Nancy,
The Nancy who years after gave us the Emancipator.
Lucy, perhaps, was wild, as frisky as a colt and prancy;
But much we owe to her, though some there are who still berate her.

The deep, green woods were filled with music and with scented blooms,
The moonbeams dancing to the tune of love on slim Mike's Run,
The night her body yielded under scarlet maple plumes.
But in the stars this scene was planned, oh, long before our sun!

Out through the gap one rode; there is no record of his name.
He loved, betrayed and left as time on time has many another.
But Lucy faced her neighbors smiling. No amount of blame
Could daunt that dark-haired girl who lived to be our Abe's grandmother.

She kept the line unbroken! Did she, too, hear Gabriel speak?
Enough that Nancy grew unhindered by the smirked derision,
The jeers, the laughs and whispers of the Dutch on Patterson's Creek.
And Lucy makes us think today of Mary and her vision.

PLAIN TALK FEB 1921

TRADUCING THE LINCOLNS

To the Editor of the Public Ledger:

Sir—Having occasion to visit your city, I read with interest your editorial, "Gladstone Cleared," in this morning's issue. It is a stern rebuke, well deserved.

Your closing statement, "It is futile for a pygmy to match a titan," is only a half-truth. Had not Gladstone's son taken this fellow to task and into court, thousands of this generation would have believed that the "Grand Old Man" was all that this traducer charged.

This week's issue of a weekly magazine contains an article reflecting on Abraham Lincoln's mother. * * * This article is woven about an alleged statement of Hernndon, never too authentic, and a notation said to be found in an old court docket in Harrodsburg, Ky. The whole story is an outcropping of imagination, glossed over with historical and geographical errors, every paragraph containing probabilities instead of facts, that stamp it as unworthy.

The vice in this is that it comes to be read at a time of the year when that great President takes first page in all newspapers. * * * It is not given to the public until Mr. Lincoln's famous son is dead. There is not, as in Gladstone's case, a son or person with recognized legal interest to come to the defense. * * * The writer of this has spent much time in the region of the early Lincolns and is quite certain the author of the tale dare not go into that country and tell from a public platform what he has written.

FRANK R. AGNEW.

Aspinwall, Pa., February 5, 1927.

LINCOLN'S GRAND-MOTHER

Unconsciously, perhaps because the condition has been over-emphasized, this country has grown into the habit of believing that nothing like the present "era of youthful riotousness" and lack of moral restraint was ever before experienced in the United States. We treat it like something unprecedented and are prone to believe that our sons and daughters have become affected by a singular phenomenon. The belief is a fallacy, and we might all profit by a study of similar conditions prevalent in the past.

At the close of the American Revolution, for instance, there was a period of uncensored living. They had no jazz in that age, but they had the same spirit which was to express itself a century and a half later in this form of "musical" gyrations. The Revolution would have produced this result even if there had been no foreign influence, but the presence of so many French troops was not without its effect on the thought and conduct of the young Virginians who served with them. It was a period, says William E. Barton, Lincoln biographer, of infidelity in religion and of laxity in morals. The French Revolution, too, was getting under way and it naturally exerted a marked influence on life in the Colonies.

In the southern half of the "Northern Neck" of Virginia, between the Potomac and the Rappahannock, the Hanks family had lived since 1653, and their descendants still are there. When Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Lucy Hanks was a plump, ruddy and vivacious girl of 16. She came of what Abraham Lincoln called "a secondary or undistinguished family," but it was not disreputable. The Hankses' neighbors in the "Northern Neck" were the Washingtons, Lees, Carters, Balls, Fontleroyes, Mountjoys, Tayloes and others. Undoubtedly there were social distinctions, but the Revolution had been a leveler and probably pretty Lucy associated with some of the young gentlemen of the Tidewater. The fact that Lucy, alone of her family, learned to read and write proves an ambition which may not have been without social incentive.

Probably Lucy saw much of life in this gay post-war period. Otherwise she would not have been a normal

young woman of her time. The Joseph Hanks family, including Lucy, migrated up the Potomac and settled on Patterson's Creek, a tributary, in what is now West Virginia. There, in a cabin on Mike's Run, in the winter of 1783-84, was born little Nancy Hanks, who was to come into fame three-quarters of a century later as the mother of Abraham Lincoln.

The Patterson's Creek country was sparsely settled and the assumption of biographers and students, based largely on what Lincoln said his mother had told him of her parentage, is that a young planter of good family came from the country back East to call on Lucy, not once, but many times. But there came a time when he did not return and Lucy was left to face life alone with little Nancy. Before Nancy was 3 months old, the family sacrificed their farm for a paltry price and migrated to Kentucky. Lucy Hanks married in Kentucky and bore a large family of children, one of whom became locally famous as a wartime preacher, and a long line of descendants revere her memory.

Undoubtedly, even as they did in Revolutionary times, these periods of youthful restlessness and laxity must have their effect. How he shall emerge depends, in all cases, upon the individual, his early training, his basic characteristics and his moral fiber. Evidently Lucy Hanks, Abraham Lincoln's grandmother, was of the right stuff to begin with.

Louisville Courier Journal
2-12-28

LINCOLN'S ORIGIN.

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

Your editorial last Sunday, "Lincoln's Grandmother," indicates that the usual myths are growing about and obscuring the facts concerning that unique American hero. The Rev. Mr. Barton, it seems, insists that the hand of Providence provided particular female producers and guardians of the genius of the Great Emancipator. The myth grows year by year. It is only a step or two from the stage of divine birth. Some day it will possibly arrive there.

It is worth while to remind the public that Lincoln himself at the age of 50 wrote his autobiography. He was capable of setting out the facts, and in fewer than 700 words he compacted lucidly the whole truth. He evaded one fact only. He did not mention that his mother was of illegitimate birth, and every decent person approves his reticence upon that point. It was proof of common human dignity that mingled with human humor in that great natural genius. He said his mother's family was "undistinguished—second families."

We know what "second families" were in Virginia before and long after the Revolution. There were First Families, second families and slaves. It is an adroit touch to say that the Hankses were "neighbors of the Washingtons, Lees, Carters, Balls, Fauntleroyes, Mountjoys, Tayloes and others." Neighbors in the sense of locality. But in the "neighborly" sense they were strangers. The Hankses were as far from the aristocrats as they were from the slave field hands. A part of the suggested glamor of Lucy Hanks is the talk of "a young planter of good family" who rode clear across Virginia "many times" to see Lucy, seduced her and was the father of her daughter, Lincoln's mother.

It requires little knowledge of Virginia of 1780-84 to know that a young planter of any caste of those days who was so infatuated of a "pretty and vivacious girl of 16," who was educated above the average of women, would have married her if only to save himself those interminable rides across State to see her. The probability is that Lucy was a victim of propinquity and the free customs of the frontier.

Whatever the facts, the child, Nancy Hanks, is now undergoing the usual divine incarnation to fit into the Lincoln heroic myth. A very old lady who lived near the Lincoln log cabin when the Great Emancipator was born—herself of the First Families and rich—was authority to me that Nancy Hanks was feeble-minded, helplessly ignorant and had made no preparations for the child. The lady went over, acted as midwife, provided clothing, food and was, so to speak, the Macaenae of the occasion. Yet she recognized Lincoln's genius and her family supported his administration.

The Barton sort of people apparently feel that genius must be traced to heredity and then must, therefore, prove the inheritance. They disregard atavism. We all know fine parents who have incapable children—we know incapable parents from whom spring the highest competent children. It is the great mystery of life. Abraham Lincoln in the eighteen generations before his advent had some 17,000,000 ancestors—to which among them did he "throw back"?

It is consensus of modern advanced thought that peculiar highest genius is "a sport," due to some unknown and perhaps accidental personal constitution and organization, which can be hindered or encouraged by its environment. Lincoln is a magnificent illustration of genius as "sport." The lowlier and more discouraging his origin the greater natural wonder he is. Why seek to make another New Testament of his "origin"? Next they will ascribe miracles to him. He stands with Washington in the thoughts and hearts of Americans—Lincoln as the supreme flower of the common people, Washington of the aristocratic class; and yet they were one in courage and devotion to highest justice and the truth of human life.

It is not in keeping with the American spirit to make demigods out of men.

YOUNG E. ALLISON.

Louisville, *Courier-Journal* 2-19-28

The Ancestry of Abraham Lincoln.

To the Editor of the News-Sentinel: 2-21-76

It seems an appropriate time to drive home some authoritative information concerning the material ancestry of Abraham Lincoln, facts which long eluded investigation and publication, but which, something over three years ago, were unearthed with indubitable proof of their verity, and published in historical annals of the state of Indiana, but which have not received popular or wide publication. This appears to be an injustice to the fame of the martyred president, and certain it is that the cloud of mystery and conjecture has given rise to cruel and wicked libel of his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln. The Lincoln line of descent has never been attacked and may be left to speak for itself: Thomas Lincoln was the fourth child of Abraham and Bathsheba (Herring) Lincoln, his birth date on his tombstone being January 6, 1778, that of his death, 1851. The entire preceding generations were plain people, imbued especially with the pioneering spirit. Now, quoting from an address by Dr. William E. Barton, is laid bare the story of Nancy Hanks and her mother, Lucy, wayward daughter of "Joseph Hanks, of Nelson county, state of Kentucky," who left her out of his will, probated May 14, 1793. Lucy was the eldest daughter, and her waywardness is not gainsaid. Nancy Hanks, the mother of Abraham Lincoln, was her natural daughter. Lucy had also a sister, the youngest of Joseph Hanks' family, who also was frail in youth, and became the mother of a son, Dennis Hanks. Nothing is ever gained by concealing facts, or by glossing them over. Better far to accept them as did their contemporaries, who gave both a second chance in life, in which both wayward daughters made good, and became the honored wives of good men, Nancy marrying Levi Hall and Lucy marrying Henry Sparrow, of Mecklenburg county, Virginia, a good man who had faith in her. They were licensed to marry in April, 1790, and after a year's probationary waiting, were married April, 1791, by John Bailey a well-known Baptist preacher.

The Hanks and Sparrow families had little, of any, communication with one another until after the death of the offended father, Joseph Hanks, but later, fraternized. A younger brother of Henry Sparrow, Thomas, married Elizabeth Hanks, a younger sister of Nancy, once "wayward." Thomas and Elizabeth (Hanks) Sparrow had no children of their own and they adopted as their own both the little Nancy and Dennis and were the only parents whose care they ever knew. They gave Nancy, the mother of the president, "better educational advantages than they had themselves enjoyed, and brought her up virtuously and religiously." They came with her to Indiana and both they and Levi and Nancy (Hanks) Hall are buried in the same inclosure with Nancy (Hanks) Lincoln in Spencer county. The graves were identified long ago by Dennis Hanks.

Of Lucy Hanks' sorrowful story, her after life as the wife of Henry Sparrow, and the mother of his eight children, whom she brought up in the fear of God, and two of whom became ministers of the gos-

pel. It should be complete redemption. It is a fairer life page than can be shown by the average "ninety and nine," who went not astray. She had force of character, and educated above the average. Of the little daughter, Nancy Hanks—called also Sparrow—who became the mother of Abraham Lincoln, she was taught reading and writing, like her mother and foster parents. "She was above medium height, slender, a brunette, with brown hair so dark that it was almost black, dark skin, eyes gray and forehead prominent—a feature regarded by her relatives as indicating superior mental ability. Her face was thin, but her disposition cheerful, with an exuberance of spirit often exhibited in bursts of care free merriment, which mood alternated with melancholy. In repose her features betrayed habitual sadness. The tendency to consumption was early indicated by an inclination to stoop.

"Lincoln was aware of the cloud that shadowed his mother's birth, and while not often speaking of her, his references were always respectful and affectionate. After his father's death in 1851 he broke this habitual reserve and spoke freely to his law partner, William Herndon, saying "that whatever might be said of his parents, and however unpromising the early surroundings of his mother might have been, she was highly intellectual by nature, had a strong memory, acute judgment and was cool and heroic." And again: "God bless my mother. All that I am or hope to be I owe to her."

HISTORIAN.

The Point of View

The publication of communications under this head does not imply editorial approval. The best insurance of consideration is brevity. The Courier-Journal reserves the right to condense submitted articles.

LINCOLN'S ORIGIN AGAIN.

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

There seem to have been various misconceptions of the intention of my letter printed in The Courier-Journal of February 19 concerning "Lincoln's Origin." A number of private letters to me and several printed by you have assumed that my purpose was to traduce Lincoln's mother; others that it was to traduce him; others that it was to recognize in him the peculiar facts concerning him as a genius and hero sui generis. The latter fairly was my purpose. Lincoln was Lincoln. He stood alone without ancestry aids, almost without personal friends, the immovable center of milling and ambitious political rivals and advisers—the most lonely, self-sufficient and self-consecrated individual in American history, in my opinion.

I have not assumed to know anything about his mother, Nancy Hanks. I did not quote "a very old woman" about his accouchement, but I did quote "a very old lady" long dead, and she was perfectly described as a "lady." She will remain nameless. Nancy Hanks remains and always will remain as vague as Mary of Nazareth. Nobody knows anything about Nancy Hanks. She is lost in fable. From the earliest biographers of Lincoln—his nearest professional and political associates—we get nothing definite. She was at once a blonde and a brunette; she was vivacious and melancholy; she was under ordinary stature, of medium height and above the ordinary height; she was slender and a wisp of a woman, with a consumptive appearance, yet—a surprise of agreement—she weighed 130 pounds (which would indicate quite a pleasing plumpness); she was beautiful, not at all pretty; she was tenderly bred, but her appearance grew to "unusual coarseness" (Herndon); she was intellectual, weak-minded, read books and told her children "legendary tales of heroes." "She could actually read and write!" records Herndon, but none of the others in the family could. She was the daughter of the Sparrows, also of Joseph and Nancy (Shipley) Hanks and also of Lucy Hanks (father a romantic Virginian cavalier, name unknown).

All of these varying statements are attributed by various biographers to Lincoln himself and to various Hankses. These biographers wrote fifty years after her death and some years after Lincoln's death. Not a word about them while he was alive. They produce no proof of what he told them. He did not write a word

of it. His autobiography says simply that his mother came of "an undistinguished family—a second family, of the name of Hanks."

We do know that Nancy Hanks and Thomas Lincoln were married; yet in their neighborhood gossip was ripe as to the paternity of Abraham. Seven fathers were provided for him besides Thomas. Yet the chastity of Nancy Hanks has called out some beautiful chapters. Nothing but neighborhood tittle-tat, gossip and idealizations in all this. It comes out about all men of genius who suddenly emerge from common sources. There is the truth somewhere, but nobody can spot the truth. The Hankses were not of folk that leave written records. They were nomads—what would be called "poor white trash."

Yet, Lincoln, the ineffable in human sympathy, in acuteness, in eloquence, in indomitable courage, patience, resolution and human faith, came from that source. Those who believe that God takes immediate interest in and charge of human fates may well believe that He brought him out of the manger in "Hogginsville" (as Lincoln spelled it) to do exactly the work He wanted done. Others of the same inclination to belief—of the old slave-holding, separate and inalienable State's Rights classes—may quite as well believe he was specially created by the Devil to do the work they thought he did.

We know actually nothing of Lincoln's family, his childhood or the forces that made him. We know a great deal of Lincoln, the Man. Yet he was so inscrutable, so naive, so reticent, so profound in sympathy, so lacking in cheap sentimentalism, that we may doubt whether we fully perceive him. He is the great lonely figure of our national history. When rhetorical poets like Herndon and Jenkin Lloyd Jones unite to carve upon his memorial this line which they attribute to him:

All that I am or hope to be I owe to my angel mother! we may discard it. It is not "Lincolnesque." He made no written record in such popular balladry senti-

mentalism. With more probability he could have said it about his step-mother, Sarah Bush, if it ever occurred to him to utter such uncharacteristic sentiment. When Herndon ascribes to him the statement that his mother was "intellectual above the average," it must be remembered that his mother died when he was a child aged nine. We may doubt that such a judgment passed by any child of nine upon any mother would carry much weight. Mothers always seem the wisest and safest persons in all the world to their children.

Lincoln was Lincoln. But who was he? We shall never know. Yet we can see human origin and human fate in his life—and be grateful for him. Lincoln was Lincoln "for a' that and a' that."

YOUNG E. ALLISON.

Louisville.

**Dr. Barton Revives Nancy Hanks Story.
That Lincoln's Mother Was Illegitimate.
Evidence Not At All Conclusive.
Fishing In The Muck For Scandal.**

BY A. L. BOWEN.
W. S. Journal 2-14-27

Dr. William E. Barton has revived for publication in a sensational weekly magazine the old, old suspicion that Nancy Hanks, mother of Abraham Lincoln was the illegitimate child of Lucy Hanks.



A. L. BOWEN

As many of our living historians do, Doctor Barton accepts as truth the suspicions and insinuations and sets about to prove them. I am surprised that a man of Doctor Barton's age and respectable and dignified calling would join in with the traducers of Washington and Franklin and other American 'idols to publish the sins that may be discovered in their families. There is some proof of the erring conduct of Lucy Hanks but it is not at all conclusive. It appears that she was indicted once in Kentucky for fornication. But she was not tried. Doctor Barton accepts the indictment as evidence of her looseness and places upon it far

more importance than ever an indictment is justified in holding. An indictment is not proof, not even evidence. An indictment is a formal charge made by a grand jury that has heard only one side of the story. In law and in public opinion, an indictment forms no part of the body of evidence. Many an indictment has been returned on evidence so flimsy that a prosecuting attorney or a court would not even use or admit it. Indictments have been returned as spite work to injure the reputation of innocent persons. The Kentuckians of Lucy Hanks' day probable were not above such methods.

It is surprising that Doctor Barton makes so much of this particular charge. Many of the facts, so called, on which Doctor Barton premises his story that Lucy was the victim of a Virginia gentleman are assumptions or deductions. Strange indeed it is, that those who hold to this theory about Lucy Hanks can cook up all the proof to convict her of sin but none of them pretend to name the man, yet they tell us he was a Virginia gentleman.

Lincoln himself had heard the story and was inclined to believe it but some of the facts that have come out later he did not have.

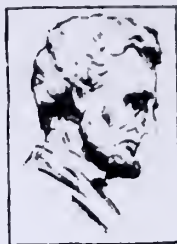
But whatever the truth about Lucy Hanks, in the absence of absolute proof, why drag her name in the mire after so many years. Can it be that a fee justifies the examination of the filth that is in every man's life and an exhibition of it to the morbidly curious many years after his death?

What if Nancy Hanks was an illegitimate child. She was blameless. Does the fact in itself if it was a fact, make illegitimacy any more respectable? Does it in any wise detract from Lincoln's glory or diminish the edifice he built in the hearts of the race of men?

Of what does character consist or of what is reputation made? of the sins that men commit or the mistakes that they make? Does a life depend for success upon the failures of its antecedents? We know that names become permanent in history because of their association with the great deeds out of which the race has benefited. In these great deeds we bury their failings and faults, defects and deficiencies. Personally, I express my disgust for such history as we have been deluged with recently, not only because it is not history but because it is the review of the weaknesses of men and women, that the human family for centuries has been willing and ready to overlook and inter with their bodies. The world has made progress in civilization by immortalizing those of its sons who have contributed to its welfare. We are a better race of men because we have idealized certain of our leaders, never forgetting they were human and susceptible to all the overpowering temptations that are inherent in human life, but subordinating them, obscuring them and leaving for our worship and emulation only that which was noble and good. Work in the research laboratories of the gutter may fascinate some of our so-called historians, especially when there is emolument for satisfying the craving of the prudent by exhibiting the dirty rags that may be extracted from the muck. Reviving the story of Nancy Hanks' origin, publishing it broadcast among the type of readers that affect such literature, in my opinion, is little short of sewage reclamation.

Truth and Greatness

POMONA, CALIF.—I believe the article by Dr. William E. Barton called The Bar Sinister in Abraham Lincoln's Life might just as well have



been left unpublished. I do not wish to deny the statement that it is a true story of a romance that subsequently gave the world (my opinion) our greatest immortal; but, in view of the fact that so

much has been said and done in favor of this wonderful character, why allow a story like this to creep into print?—J. H. Tolle.

**"I Thank Thee I Am Not as
This Publican"**

AUSTIN, TEX.—The article in your "mag," by Dr. William E. Barton is one of the most disgraceful exposés of a woman's heart that it has been my misfortune to read. I do not know what you paid for the article, but if you paid anything I trust that Dr. Barton will return the amount to you, and get down on his knees for the balance of his life and beg God Almighty to forgive him.
—C. W. Moore, *South*, 3-26-27

The Point of View

The publication of communications under this head does not imply editorial approval. The best assurance of consideration is brevity. The *Courier-Journal* reserves the right to condense submitted articles.

LINCOLN'S MOTHER.

To the Editor of The *Courier-Journal*.

I am traveling abroad, and have received through the courtesy of a friend clippings from The *Courier-Journal*, including an editorial (February 2) on "Lincoln's Grandmother" and a letter in reply by Young E. Allison. The editorial seems to me to be wise and to call for no comment from me. Mr. Allison's letter, for two reasons, appears to demand a reply, and I am writing though this letter must reach the office rather long after the communication which calls it forth.

The first reason why I make reply is that Mr. Allison, with less courtesy than I should have expected from him, makes reference to me by name, attributing to me motives which are not mine and opinions which I do not hold, and which a very little labor on his part would have shown him are not as he represents them. If he had read my books "The Life of Abraham Lincoln" and "The Women Lincoln Loved," to which books he professedly is making answer, he would have learned that most, if not all, that he says of me is untrue. It is not true, but is the reverse of true, that I set out to create for Abraham Lincoln a supernatural ancestry. I set out to learn the simple truth and tell it, and I have done so. It is not true that I have contributed to the Lincoln myth; few authors have destroyed so many myths as I. Mr. Allison did not intend to tell what was false, but neither did he trouble himself to learn the truth. He trusted to a facile pen rather than undertake the labor of learning, and he has fallen into the pit that lies in the path of the uninformed and the prejudiced.

My second reason is not personal. Mr. Allison tells us that he was the confidant of a very old lady, rich and of "The First Families" who lived near the Lincoln cabin in 1809, and that she served as midwife to Lincoln's mother, and that the latter was feeble-minded and had made no provision for her baby.

Now, apart from the gross and unpardonable statement that Lincoln's mother was feeble-minded, which with all my years of research among these "first families" and others I never heard before, and which so far as I know has never previously appeared in print, if Mr. Allison wants to discover a rich woman of the first families who thus ministered to the destitute Mrs. Lincoln, why need he stop with one? The woods of Larue County are rather full of families, all of them "first families," whose female ancestors did this very thing. Mr. Allison withholds the name of the one he cites, and thus assumes responsibility for the story. I can give him several names in point, including those of some families who, as shown by the Court House records, did not move into Larue County for several years after 1809. These silly stories, if they prove anything, prove, each of them, that all the rest are false. They originate in a nearly innocent vanity, an inferiority complex that wishes to link the family name with that of Lincoln while pretending to

a social superiority over the Lincolns. None of them are true. Nancy Hanks Lincoln had two aunts, sisters of her mother, Mrs. Jesse Friend and Mrs. Thomas Sparrow, resident less than two miles from her when her baby was born. She suffered no privation or neglect. What other women could do for her was done, and her husband had just won a troublesome lawsuit and was at home with some money in his pocket. Her husband was not a great man, but he was sober, honest and cared for his wife. He had employment and the character of his work in framing mill timbers, and the amount of his compensation for that work, are matter of court record. He got his pay, spite of the determined attempt of one of the "First Families" to deprive him of it.

But Mr. Allison's worst offense against good manners and morals is his assuming responsibility for this statement that Lincoln's mother was of feeble mind. I do not think it possible that any description of her given by anyone who knew her has ever been in print without my having read it, and I affirm that Mr. Allison's statement, fired from behind the ambush of a name which he withholds, is contradicted by every description, known to me, by any person who knew her either in Kentucky or Indiana. These descriptions are not, in general, extravagant, but they reveal to us a young woman of good character and more than average intelligence. Abraham Lincoln himself, speaking with his characteristic self-restraint, said that in spite of her lack of early advantages she had a good mind, sound judgment and was calm and heroic.

While I have my pen in hand I may add a little word about the Hanks family. I began my research years ago with the impression that it was an unusually ignorant, migratory family, in which sexual irregularity was rather common. It was a rather better family than I thought. I find but one case of bastardy before the Revolutionary War, and that in a collateral branch. Many very respectable Virginia families had more. It was not a distinguished family, neither was it disreputable, and no such social gulf as Mr. Allison imagines separated it from the better families of Virginia. The families that, in the early generation at least, intermarried with the Hankses were good Virginia families. In 200 years of the Hanks connection related to Lincoln I find no criminal record whatever, no case of pauperism or imbecility.

The Hanks family of Virginia and Kentucky did not originate in Massachusetts, as is commonly assumed. The Hanks ancestors of Lincoln were in Virginia fifty years before the Massachusetts line began. The Virginia line began rather well, with one Thomas Hanks, who made his first land purchase in 1653, and bought land in increasing area for just twenty-five years, till his estate extended below the Pianketank to the shore of the Rappahannock. He not only bought wild land, but he leased improved land, with cattle, indentured servants and all, and he paid for at least one of these plantations three years in advance with tobacco, which was cash in Virginia. These records begin in 1652, but he had been for several years in Virginia. He

is believed with some reason, though as yet without certainty, to have been identical with one Thomas Hanks who fought under Cromwell, and is thought to have been deported after the Battle of Devizes, near his home, in 1644. If his indenture was for seven years, and he had worked for two additional years for wages, the fact that he had money (or rather tobacco) to buy his first land in 1653 would be logical and chronological.

If it be asked why the Hanks family became poor, I reply: "I do not know the details of the intervening generations in full, but Thomas' son William, and William's son John both died in early manhood, leaving widows and young children. In the case of John, the widow, Katherine, was left with so heavy a burden that the County Court considered whether it

would not be necessary that she bind out her sons. They summoned her into court, and she did not come. Neither did she bind out her sons. She brought up her large family and did not marry again, but lived a widow forty-five years after the death of her husband and left a good estate, of which I have the inventory. She was President Lincoln's great-great-grandmother. Her case was very like that of the President's paternal grandmother, Bathsheba Lincoln, whose husband, Capt. Abraham Lincoln, was killed by an Indian in 1786, and who brought up her children and lived to a great age. Both the Lincolns and the Hankses had some rather good men and resourceful women.

In closing I refer again for a moment to Mr. Allison's personal reference to myself. He creates a class for me, and speaks of "the Barton sort of people." The Barton sort of people are people who verify their facts before rushing into print. With such people Mr. Allison can find little in common. WILLIAM E. BARTON.

Steamship Majestic.

JOURNAL, LOUISVILLE, SUNDAY

MORNING, APRIL 1, 1928

The Point of View

The publication of communications under this head does not imply editorial approval. The best insurance of consideration is brevity. The Courier-Journal reserves the right to condense submitted articles.

MR. BARTON, THE LINCOLNS AND HANKSES.

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

The remarkable letter from the Rev. William E. Barton in The Courier-Journal last Sunday about Lincoln's mother gave him opportunity to advertise two books of his that he named with great particularity. A new book by Mr. Barton on the subject of Lincoln comes as regularly as the equinoxes. He has written a handful of them. They may be taken as affording interesting glimpses into the routine of life among the common frontier people (such as the Lincolns and Hankses were) a hundred years ago. But analogous speculations about Abraham Lincoln's parentage, birth and early life can scarcely be dignified as facts. He has called one book "The Soul of Lincoln," another "The Books of Lincoln," and a third "The Women Lincoln Loved!" Such flights into the higher atmospheres can be made about anybody, even the unknown. It is done every day in novels. But they amount to mere bookmaking and in the end record only the sympathetic creations of writers.

When in the letter, of which he complains, I spoke of "the sort of Bartons" he got the implication clearly. He is bartonizing Abraham Lincoln as Weems weemised George Washington.

We need go no further than Mr. Barton's letter to see upon what flimsy ground he constructs his "history." He takes offense at my belief in the private story of a very old lady (now dead nearly half a century)—one of "The First Families" who lived near the Lincoln cabin in 1809—who said that Lincoln's mother was feeble minded and had made no provision for her baby. He accuses me of "firing from ambush behind a name which he (I) withholds," and in the same breath he fires from behind ambush a sarcastic volley against "the woods of Larue County, which are full of families, all of them 'first families,' whose female ancestors did this very thing!" He declares he can give several names in point—but he gives no names. He thus throws wholesale stigma upon respectable people in Larue County because their statements would interfere with his own conception of what Lincoln's birth, parentage and condition ought to have been.

From which it appears that Mr. Barton exercises the full privilege of believing or disbelieving as he pleases, but he resents my exercise of the same privilege.

It has been 119 years since Lincoln was born and the fifth generation of his successors is now present. It might occur to Mr. Barton that among the four generations of a fruitful family many persons of various names might trace to a common ancestress or members of her family and so might truthfully hand the same story down. But he prefers the easier way of labeling all of them as unworthy of belief.

The fact that they are of "the first families" seems to arouse his particular ire. Similar temper is exhibited in his vague gossip of a Hanks family in Virginia which he assumes to identify with Nancy Hanks' progenitors. He calmly announces that in that

Hanks family "I find but one case of bastardy before the Revolutionary War and that in a collateral branch. Many very respectable Virginia families had more." By that he seems to confess that the Hankses were not so very respectable and yet to intimate in the current idiom of today that they were a damned sight better than the "very respectables."

It seems to be in his blood to reject all "first family" testimony if it interferes with the vraisemblance of his own structure. I had not known that the records of bastardy in Virginia previous to 1776 were so accessible and well kept. I did know that it was then, and is now, the custom of "respectable families" to make some provision for their bastards, and so their sexual slips become known, as well from that as from the common tendency to gossip about their scandals. But the thin annals of the submerged illiterate are mercifully blank upon such matters—except when there emerges a remarkable product like Lincoln.

It appears from his letter that Mr. Barton is now on the trail of the Virginian Hankses in search of a genealogical John the Baptist for Lincoln. He has got back to 1653 with the Hankses—whether or not they are the Lincoln-Hankses—and the last Hanks he has uncovered he thus announces: "Is believed with some reason though as yet without certainty" to be a Thomas, who was sent over as an indentured servant as being a rebel against Charles I. That sort of writing is not history. It is bartonizing history. But it has the adroit effect of getting Lincoln perilously near to the dangerous "first families," because the average Virginian genealogical tree for modern social purposes always leaves off with "who was descended from Robert the Bruce," or "from a cavalier who came over with William the Conqueror," or "from the Tudor Kings." (Oh, those fruitful and benign Tudor Kings!)

Mr. Barton has his original Hanks a rich landowner. He admits that he "does not know the details of the intervening generations in full" to Nancy and Lincoln; but in spite of the absence of family Bibles among those unable to read or write—as the Hankses mostly were—let us confidently expect the speculated details in due time with another equinox and another book.

Mr. Barton was born in Illinois the year before the Emancipation Proclamation and still resides there. Yet he—Northern born—presumes to be final arbiter as to the curious class distinctions in old slave States when he says "there was no such social gulf as Mr. Allison imagines separated it (the Hanks family) from the better families of Virginia" (that is the Washington, Fauntleroy and Ball families). Mr. Allison does not imagine that gulf—he knows it. The distance between the First Families and the "poor white trash" in those days was as wide and deep as the Red Sea and it required a marvelous Moses of character and purpose, as Abraham Lincoln was, to cross it. This is one of the facts Mr. Barton should have tried "to verify before rushing into print."

The fact is Mr. Barton has come to believe himself sole possessor of Lincoln as a subject and resents intrusion. His first book about Lincoln was published in 1919, exactly 101 years after the death of Nancy Hanks and fifty-four years after Lincoln's death. He

has been researching and picking and choosing from what others have written and made it popular. He objects to others picking what he does not choose. The intimate facts about the Lincoln and the Hanks families were a closed book, except to speculations by analogy. Mr. Barton has spun them into endless gossip from which has emerged fables about the mother and her wonderful son. We may wish they were true—but we shall never know. He skillfully depicts the analogous as the fact and loses the individual in the mass.

He does not invite fullest confidence in his judgment when he gravely quotes Lincoln himself (who was eight years old when his mother died) as having said many years later, with his characteristic self-restraint, that "in spite of her lack of early advantages she had a good

mind, sound judgment and was calm and heroic!" There was a veritable Solomon sitting in judgment at eight years! Yet, Lincoln admits in his own writing that he himself was ignorant and with only vestiges of an education until he was a grown man. Mr. Barton believes the twaddle because it suits his brief. He resents my disbelieving it. He accuses me of "offense against manners and morals." It is some compensation at least that he does not challenge my common sense.

YOUNG E. ALLISON.

Louisville.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL, LOUISVILLE,

MORNING, APRIL 8, 1928.

L. A. WOMAN FINDS GRAVE OF LINCOLN'S GRANDMOTHER, CLAIM



Dr. Mary DeHart Lightner, Los Angeles woman, who may have pointed the way for historians to write the final chapter of the life of a mother whose romance gave the United States one of its greatest figures, Abraham Lincoln.

Important Discovery of Forgotten Burial Ground by L. A. Doctor Reported to Historians

A Los Angeles woman may have pointed the way for historians to

write the last chapter of the life of an unwed mother whose romance gave to the United States one of its most loved historic figures.

She is Dr. Mary DeHart Lightner, a retired woman physician and lecturer of 4477 West Rose Hill

drive, and she believes she may have solved the problem of the grave of Lucy Hanks Sparrow, maternal grandmother of Abraham Lincoln.

In the backwoods of Kentucky, she reported, she found a little cemetery, its plots weed-covered and its marking stones almost hidden by moss growths—a cemetery unknown to Lincoln authorities. And the folk of the district reported that no one had been buried in the graveyard for forty years and that it was believed that kin of Lincoln were at rest there.

MARKED SPARROW GRAVE

Further, Dr. Lightner reported, she removed some of the moss from one of the stones and found indications that the headstone marked the grave of one of the Sparrows.

It was in August, 1926, that Dr. Lightner penetrated the district, seeking, in company with a county judge, to explore land which had been in the Los Angeles woman's family ownership since the opening decade of the last century. At the home of a mountaineer, whom they sought to engage as guide, they came upon a woman seriously ill.

Dr. Lightner remained to care for the sick woman, while the judge and the mountaineer pursued their land investigation. The sick woman told Dr. Lightner of the old "buryin' ground" far back in the

hills. There now centers the search for the grave of the mother of Nancy Hawks, who was the mother of President Lincoln.

Lincoln authorities are planning to run down the clues provided by the Los Angeles woman.

Threatening rain cut her exploration short, but not before she had gone through a gap in a crumbling stone fence surrounding an acre of ground and waded waist deep in undisturbed grass. Between eighty and 100 headstones were in the yard about the church and beneath one of them may repose the dust of Lincoln's maternal grandmother.

Dr. Lightner found the headstones so encrusted with moss and accumulated dust and so worn by the weather that only a scientific examination of each will answer the question. But on one, by scraping with a stick she found the terminal letters, "—OW" and part of the date "18—." It was in 1825 that this grandmother died.

TRACES LINCOLN KIN

William E. Barton, author of "The Life of Abraham Lincoln," has been in communication with Dr. Lightner about the discovery she made of the forgotten cemetery on the hidden ridge. He had traced the progenitors of Lincoln in their early homes in Virginia, before their removal to the western part of that state, out of which Kentucky was later carved. He found in the backwoods of Kentucky dozens of families of Sparrows and Hanks, who assert and offer to prove by their family Bible and other records, their kinship with Lincoln and

the Hanks, claims which Barton recognizes as correct.

"Many yet live about the church with its 'buryin' ground,'" said Dr. Lightner, and one of her motives in telling him of her discovery came when the approaching storm drove her back to the car, and brought her into contact with a hurrying native who lived near by. He said, "Haint been no buryin's th'ar for mor'n forty year. But I hern tell they was kin of Lincoln buried

th'ar and folks allus cal'lated it was so."

Barton has recently written Dr. Lightner that he never heard of the old cemetery, admittedly in the heart of the later homes of the Sparrows and the Hankses and also in the heart of the "dark and bloody

ground" of Kentucky feuds, the Hatfields and McCoys and other famous warring tribes. Morgan's Raiders had Civil War headquarters nearby. He asked for any information in addition to what she had first sent him when she read his biography of Lincoln recently.

The story of Lincoln's grandmother, who was born Lucy Hanks, is that she was a daughter of Joseph Hanks of Patterson Creek Valley, Hampshire County, Virginia, and that from her romance with an unnamed Englishman, either an officer from the surrendered army of Lord Cornwallis after the close of the Revolutionary War, or a highly educated owner of a plantation there, was born Nancy Hanks, who was Lincoln's mother. Later the family

with many others removed to what is now Kentucky, but not until Lucy Hanks had met and married Henry Sparrow and had borne eight children to him.

ESCAPES TRIAL

Nancy's existence was well known to Henry Sparrow, who loved and was kind to the child, and he also knew that her mother, his wife, had actually been indicted, though never brought to trial for her relations with the unknown Englishman.

The history of the church is clear, Dr. Lightner said, back to its construction at least twenty years before the death of Lucy Hanks Sparrow. In fact it was built to serve the religious needs of the Virginia

families who came there with the Sparrows and the Hanks.

Dr. Lightner said that although the country still appears exactly as it undoubtedly has appeared for centuries, the moonshiners are few in number, that rich coal mines have been opened near by on the Green and Salt Rivers emptying into the Ohio, that mineral springs are being exploited, the varied mineral and timber wealth is being studied, and that Henry Ford has bought huge tracts near-by.

With roads being built the old seclusion in the most picturesque portions of the Blue Grass state is drawing to an end. The solution of the mystery of the grave of the girl whose errant love so affected the history of the United States may

come with industrial activity ending the age long peace of the backwoods, Dr. Lightner said.

Los Angeles Eve Express
Oct 5 1929

NANCY HANKS' BIRTHPLACE LOCATED

After a great deal of investigation, the site of the birthplace of Nancy Hanks, mother of Abraham Lincoln, has been located in West Virginia in the beautiful country near the headwaters of the Potomac. An interesting story of the Hanks family in this vicinity and of the great difficulties encountered recently in locating the exact site of the home is told in the current issue of the National Republic by Andrew Price, chairman of the West Virginia Nancy Hanks commission. Among other things, Mr. Price says:

"Nancy Hanks Lincoln was born on the headwaters of the Potomac river, either in the year 1784, or in the year 1785, the daughter of Lucy Hanks and the grand-daughter of Joseph Hanks. The place now is in the bounds of West Virginia.

"Joseph Hanks was born in Richmond county, near the Potomac river, in the year 1725. He lived there until the year 1779, when he went to the mountains in the extreme western part of the Fairfax Grant, with his wife, nee Anne Lee, and his nine children. He established a home in the woods on 108 acres of land and built a substantial log house and remained there not later than 1787, when he moved to the county of Kentucky and settled in the Rough river portion where his descendants now live and their name is legion.

"West Virginia is divided into two parts, the Eastern Waters and the Western Waters by the Allegheny Front, so that forty-seven counties are west of the divide and eight counties are to the east wholly drained by the Potomac. The oldest county in West Virginia is Hampshire, formed in 1754. Originally it included land now in Mineral, Morgan, Hardy, Grant and Pendleton counties, all on the Eastern Waters.

"The census of 1782 shows that Joseph Hanks and his wife and nine children lived in Hampshire county, and is conclusive evidence that the Joseph Hanks of Richmond, or Hampshire and Kentucky counties was the same man.

"The eight counties on the Potomac are different from the rest of West Virginia and from what might be called Virginia Irredenta, having been forced into the new state of West Virginia by force and by arms during the Civil war. The all important Baltimore and Ohio railway controlled these counties, and the war measure would not have been complete without including this railway in that part of Virginia which remained loyal to the union.

"It is a section rich in history. It was the summer home of George Washington. Here was the tory uprising. Rumsey invented the steamboat here, a logical occurrence like the Swiss navy; here were three revolutionary generals, Gates, Lee and Stephens, not to mention Morgan; John Brown's raid; Rosser, Mosby, Custer, John H. McNeill, and Jessee McNeill, heroes of the Civil war; Crook and Kelley, major generals kidnapped from the heart of the city of Cumberland in the middle of an army of 10,000 men by Jessee McNeill and sixty-two free companions."

STILLWATER OKLA. GAZETTE (wk)
FEB. 14, 1930

I am enclosing certificate of
Proportionary service for a
T. 2. Hanks. This service
will be accepted by the
A. T. 2.

Very truly
yours, E. H. Hanks

Wm. H. Hanks

I am at similar certificate
for any name found on our
T. 2. Army records. As we
know of you want them.

North Carolina Historical Commission



This is to Certify that the following is an accurate copy from records in the official custody of the North Carolina Historical Commission.

Account of Cash paid and certificates granted to non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers for pay and deficiency of Clothing prior to 1st January 1782 including interest to August 1783.

<u>Names</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>due bills</u>	<u>Certificates</u>
Drury Nevel			
.....			
.....			
Jacob Hanks	£ 186.11.3	£ 46.12.9	£ 139.18.6
.....			
Valentine Cherry			

Rec. Warren May 20. 1786
of Macon, McCulloch and
Montford Thirty one Hun-
dred and seventy pounds
Twelve shillings and Two
pence in Certificates and
Due Bills For the following
seventeen accounts beginning
at the name of Drury Nevel
and ending at the name of
Valentine Cherry P Orders
W. Faircloth

From: North Carolina Revolutionary Army Accounts,
Receipt Book, page 224.

Raleigh August 12th, 1931.

ARH
Secretary

August 31, 1931

Miss Janette E. Biggs
Oxford, North Carolina

My dear Miss Biggs:

Thank you very much for sending me the
certificate of the notary services of Jacob
Hanks..

I have not had an opportunity yet to
check up the Hanks names which you kindly found
for me in the county records but as soon as I do
I will try and determine whether they are of the
Hanks branch which I am tracing.

The next time you happen to be in Lamen-
berg you might casually glance through and see if
there are any Hanks, Shipley and Sparrow families
there. If so, I shall probably want some work done
on those families in that county.

Very sincerely yours,

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAW:LH

Dear Mr. Warren,

Am enclosing data on
Hawks family as shown in deeds,
wills & marriage bonds of Laurens
County. Also include data on
Hargrove family allied with
Hawks. Also service for
Patents.

If you want more detailed
description of land deeded will be
glad to make them.

Am sorry but Shipley, Sparrow
& Lincoln do not appear on
our records.

Let me hear from you.
Am making trips next week
to several Virginia Counties.
Would you have any county
you want searched? Will be
glad to get any Hawks
data & find if you want it.
Wire or write at once as I
go soon.

Very truly
yours E. Peggs.

Argil Hauck in Methuen
District of Guilford County 1778
took Oath of Allegiance.

N. C. Colonial Records vol XXII
pg 176.

John Hargrove same
pg. 175

These two references prove them
to be patriots during Revolution &
is accepted by Daughters of
American Revolution for eligibility.

From book den. in Guilford County

see N. C. Records

Time - Sept 5 1932 p 22

Model U. S. Male. In the halls of the American Museum of Natural History the eugenists set up a vast educational exhibit which will last until Sept. 22. Charts prepared by *Dr. Harry Hamilton Laughlin* of the Carnegie Institution outlined the genealogies of Presidents Washington, Lincoln and Roosevelt. The Washington line had 26 men of note during 179 years. Lincoln's had twelve important men in 186 years; Roosevelt's 44 in 309 years. Lincoln's stock crossed with that of Daniel Boone. Meticulously Dr. Laughlin recorded that Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks, was Mrs. Lucy Hanks Sparrow's natural child. Other charts indicate that most people who have taken out U. S. patents, and hence are presumably inventive, have been of French descent. Next come Swedish, Dutch, Danish, German descendants. Men get baldheadedness, like hemophilia, only through their mothers, who always are unaffected. Women also transmit wanderlust.

Outstanding in the exhibition is the plaster composite of what 100,000 U. S. soldiers looked like when the War ended. No husky was that average U. S. male, according to the conglomerate of his physical measurements. He was of slight build, flat-chested, inclined to paunchiness, obviously a worker at a sedentary occupation.

120 EAST NINETEENTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

December 19, 1932

Dear Dr. Warren:

This is a Capital summing up of the case of Grandfather Hanks that you report in #192 of Lincoln Lore. You have put your theory into a clear, reasonable, understandable form, and I have a fairly strong conviction that one of these days the documentary evidence, which will clinch the matter that Nancy Hanks' father was James Hanks, will turn up. It is fine work.

A Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year to you.

Very sincerely

Idell Ralke
Z

*To see that Mr. Rudolph
felt this,*
Z

Dr. Lewis Warren
Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.
Fort Wayne, Indiana

North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends

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Snow Camp, N. C.
March 14, 1933

Mr. Louis A. Warren, Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of February 27, inquiring about the Hanks family, presumably the parents or ancestors of Nancy Hanks.

Some years ago, when I was looking up the history of Friends churches in the Blue Ridge Mountains, I met up with the Hanks family. What is left of the family is located in the mountains about six or seven miles southeast of Galax, Va. If I remember correctly, the head of the family was John Hanks. It seems that the family have been in that community since the first settlements, which go back to near 1750. This particular Hanks family were likely members of the Friends meeting located on that spot about 1793. This Mr. John Hanks insisted that Nancy Hanks Lincoln was a member of their family.

At that time I could not take up the matter in a very definite way. I expected to go back later and look over such material as they had, records, deeds, family names, and such data as would probably help to unravel their family relations.

That is about as much as I can give you in regard to the subject in hand. I do not have any records of those old meetings in my possession, though some of them may be in the Vault at Guilford College, along with records of other Friends meetings in North Carolina. A letter to Miss Laura D. Worth, Guilford College, N. C., might bring forth valuable data. Perhaps the best man, locally, in that section where the family lived, to communicate with would be Rev. Jas. E. Bartlett, Galax, Va. He has lived all of his life in that section and, being a minister, has served the Friends where the Mt. Pleasant Friends Meeting was located in the early settlement of the country.

Very truly yours,

L. W. McFarland

LWMcF/j

March 20, 1933

Miss Laura D. Worth
Guilford College, North Carolina

My dear Miss Worth:

Miss L. W. McFarland of Snow Camp, North Carolina has suggested that I write to you with reference to possible records relating to the Hanks and Shipley families located in North Carolina and which were undoubtedly affiliated with the Friends church.

I am wondering if, in your researches, you have come across these families and if so, if you would be in a position to have photostat copies made of any records you may have at Guilford College.

We are very anxious indeed to trace the ancestry of Abraham Lincoln through the Hanks and Shipley families and thought possibly you might be of some assistance to us.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:LH

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

March 20, 1933

Miss L. W. McFarland
Snow Camp, North Carolina

My dear Miss McFarland:

Thank you very much for your courtesy in taking the time to reply to my inquiry about the Hanks family.

I have been in correspondence with some of the members of the family at Galax but I am quite sure that while they are related, that it is not the immediate family which I am now trying to find.

At your suggestion I am writing to Miss Laura D. Worth of Guilford College, who I trust may be able to help me. Thank you very much for your interest.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:LH Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

R. E. PRICE, PRESIDENT
J. B. MILLER, VICE-PRES.
L. D. MILLER, SEC.-TREAS.

THE RUTHERFORD COUNTY NEWS

INC.

PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS

RUTHERFORDTON, N. C.

Mr. Louis A. Warren,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

April 24, 1933.

Dear Mr. Warren:.

Replying to your request about a pamphlet on the life of Abraham Lincoln would state that I have never published such a book, or been the author of one. I bought from a Dr. J. C. Coggins here some years ago a book entitled, "Abraham Lincoln, A North Carolinian" in which Dr. Coggins attempts to prove that Lincoln is not only a native of North Carolina, but of Rutherford County.

I only have one volume of this book and would not like to sell it. I think I can find you another copy or possibly locate Dr. Coggins, who does not live here now and might have some left over. I think they sold for about \$2.50 each.

Would you like to have one of the above named books at that price?

Best wishes. Yours very truly.

R. E. Price

Editor The News.

P. O. Box 431

Rutherfordton, N. C.

April 27, 1933

Mr. R. E. Price
P. O. Box No. 430
Rutherford, N. C.

My dear Mr. Price:

Thank you very much for offering to attempt to find a copy of Dr. Coggins' book on "Abraham Lincoln, a North Carolinian," but I have already secured one of these historical sketches by Dr. Coggins and have had considerable correspondence with him.

I regret very much to have bothered you about the Lincoln matter but inasmuch as we are making very interesting discoveries relative to the probable origin of Lincoln's mother and the temporary residence of her parents in North Carolina, I was especially anxious to secure any information which you might have that would contribute to our knowledge of Lincoln's maternal ancestry.

Thanking you again for your kindness, I am

Respectfully yours,

LAW:AAM

Director
Lincoln National Life Foundation

August 6, 1935

Mr. Claudius D. Holland
Gaston, North Carolina

My dear Mr. Holland:

I have recently returned from a visit to Gastonia and was advised that you are a son of Dr. E. B. Holland.

We are especially interested here in tracing the maternal ancestry of Abraham Lincoln and it was this mission which took me into North Carolina for a week or more.

It is my understanding that one of your ancestors was a Hanks and I am wondering if there is any information in the family that will allow us to identify the Hanks, presumably James, who married Lucy Shipley and who died shortly after the birth of their first and only child, Nancy Hanks, who later married Abraham Lincoln.

Thomas

I would greatly appreciate any assistance you can give me in this matter as it appears that Mrs. W. H. Hoffman who was in possession of the old family bible of the Hankses but now passed away.

Undoubtedly you are familiar with some of the traditions which have been circulated about Lincoln's mother which has made the relatives of the Shipleys and Hankses rather reluctant to claim relationship but there is no word of truth in any of these malicious attacks which have been made and the home in which Nancy Hanks Lincoln was brought up in Kentucky after the death of her father in North Carolina was a home of fine culture and also of good southern stock, Richard Berry, her guardian, being her uncle, who married Rachel Shipley, Lucy Shipley's sister.

Mr. Gladus D. Holland

-2- August 6, 1935

I have taken occasion to write also to Mrs. W. P. Moore whom I understand is related to the McCords also related to the Hankses through Shipley connections.

Thanking you for any assistance you may be able to give me, I am

Respectfully yours,
Director

LAW:LH

I have personally reviewed your letter of August 6, 1935.

Very truly yours,

Director

August 6, 1935

4

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH
TABLES AND PROOFS OF HEIRSHIP
PROBATE RESEARCH AND DISCOVERY OF HEIRS
INVESTIGATION OF TITLES ON THE BASIS OF HEIRSHIP
ESTABLISHMENT OF LEGAL IDENTITY AND RELATIONSHIP

NEAL F. MEARS
GENEALOGIST
POST OFFICE BOX 124
CHICAGO

AUTHOR - INSTRUCTOR - LECTURER
AVAILABLE FOR SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS

OFFICE ADDRESS:
(PLEASE DO NOT SEND MAIL HERE)

516 N. Clark St.,
Chicago,
Dec. 8, 1938.

Lincolnia Publishers,
Box 1110,
Fort Wayne, Ind.,

Gentlemen;-

Through the kindness of Mr. H. H. Hewitt, head of the reference division of the Chicago Public Library, I have learned that you are in the process of publishing data about the ancestry of Abraham Lincoln. I, too, have an interest in this matter.

Some months ago I was engaged to check certain records of Macon County, Illinois. In so doing I learned that several persons by the name of Hanks became prominent in this place. It is generally known that Macon County was the first home of Abraham Lincoln in Illinois, and it is also known that he had relatives by the name of Hanks, but no work could be found which clearly stated the relationships. Even the most reliable of the county histories merely call these members of the Hanks family "relatives."

The situation intrigued me so that I have spent many months on the study of Abraham Lincoln and his Hanks relatives, and have gathered data from reliable sources, principally undisputable family records and official records. I can clearly show the kinship of these members of the Hanks family in Illinois to Abraham Lincoln.

Needless to say, in my research I found much erroneous information, some of which has, unfortunately, been accepted by the public. The two most striking instances are the attempt to deduce Abraham Lincoln's descent from the German Linkhorn family, and the interesting but incorrect book on Nancy Hanks by Caroline Hanks Hitchcock. Her conclusions are disputed by both family records and official records, and the correct story of the Hanks family and kinship to Abraham Lincoln should be published by some recognized group such as yours.

I shall be pleased to learn whether or not you have made these discoveries. Unless some one else does so, I shall publish the information about the Hanks family before long. It is high time that the facts are made available to those persons interested in Abraham Lincoln.



NFM/A

Very truly yours,
Neal F. Mears
Neal F. Mears, A. M.

December 9, 1938

Mr. Neal F. Mears
516 North Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Mears:

Through the years we have published a great many monographs on Lincoln and the Hanks family and while we have not gathered absolute truth about Lincoln's maternal ancestry, we believe that the conclusions which have now been drawn are not open to criticism.

Although Mrs. Hitchcock made one or two grievous errors in her little book, after all she was found to be more correct than Dr. Barton and some of the later ones who have attempted to straighten out the tangle.

Many years ago Mr. Learned straightened out the confusion about Lincoln's ancestry, and before him, Solomon Lincoln, of Harvard University, gave quite an accurate line of the Abraham Lincoln ancestry, and of course you are familiar with Waldo Lincoln's documental work on the history of the Lincoln family.

We shall continue to publish through the ensuing year genealogical articles on the Hanks family which will be released through our publication known as *The Lincoln Kinsman*, which is published monthly.

We should be very glad indeed to give some publicity to your book if you plan to get out a story of the Hanks family.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB

Director

NEAL F. MEARS
GENEALOGIST
POST OFFICE BOX 124
CHICAGO

AUTHOR - INSTRUCTOR - LECTURER
AVAILABLE FOR SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS

OFFICE ADDRESS:

~~PLEASE DO NOT SEND MAIL HERE~~

516 N. Clark St.,
Chicago,
Dec. 10, 1938.

Mr. Louis A. Warren,
Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Ind.,

Dear Mr. Warren:-

Thank you for your letter of the 9th inst. I appreciate the courtesy of your reply, and also the offer to give some publicity to my compilation on the Hanks family.

You say that your organization has published data on the Hanks family. Will you kindly quote price for copies and advise if I might be permitted to cite from these works?

I am anxious to get all available material on the Hanks family before I publish. Despite the excellence of the genealogical collections in Chicago, there is a dearth of information about this family.

As you doubtless know, the errors about the Hanks family have been given wider circulation than the truth. We may excuse Mrs. Hitchcock for her mistakes are as natural as those made by other persons not skilled in genealogical research. It is so easy for any investigator who is seeking data about a particular individual to find some mention of a person of the same name and say, ipso facto, that the record concerns the person in mind. I have warned hundreds of my students in research that such coincidence is not proof, and that the mere finding of a name does not establish identity unless further corroborative facts can be found. Such rules of logic are emphasized in preparing evidence for court cases, one of my specialties in genealogical work. Another similar instance is the conclusion that a person named in a birth, marriage, and death record is the same simply because these records are a normal period apart.

You will doubtless agree that her identification of Nancy Hanks, daughter of Joseph, as the mother of Abraham Lincoln was one of the most grievous errors ever committed in biographical or genealogical annals. Yet it was an error easily made by an inexperienced researcher. She knew that Abraham Lincoln's mother was Nancy Hanks, and she found a Nancy Hanks mentioned in the will of Joseph Hanks. So, in her mind, the two should "be must" be the same. She ignored all family and official records to advance this premise. In fact, she even disputed Abraham Lincoln himself as to his grandmother's name and his kinship to certain of the Hanks family.

It is not strange to find an aunt and niece of the same baptismal name, but it is unusual to find them so nearly of an age. I have seen statements that the two Nancy Hankses were born only a day apart, but no official confirmation of this allegation was cited. There is ample evidence, however, that they ^{were} almost the same age.

I have often wondered why Mrs. Hitchcock mixed the marriages of the members of the Hanks family. If she was in such a locality that she could find the will, why could she not find other records?



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NEAL F. MEARS
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POST OFFICE BOX 124
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AUTHOR - INSTRUCTOR - LECTURER
AVAILABLE FOR SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS

OFFICE ADDRESS:
(PLEASE DO NOT SEND MAIL HERE)

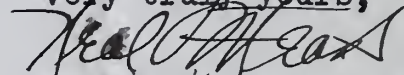
Lincoln Foundation p. 2. 12/10/38

Many other competent genealogists have commented upon this fact, too. Any researcher who finds valuable information in any place should exhaust all other sources there, unless he or she is fearful of further disclosures.

We must agree that Dr. Barton jumped at a conclusion in his effort to establish kinship between Abraham Lincoln and Robert E. Lee, and we know that a competent genealogist corrected him, but we must admit that the records he cites dispute Mrs. Hitchcock.

Bruce Barton was once asked to write a book on religion devoid of emotionalism. His friend wanted basic truths. I plead the same cause. I have no interest in the Hanks family except to compile an account which is so well founded on undisputable records that no sensible person will attempt to question it.

Very truly yours,



Neal F. Mears, A. M.

NFM/A



December 14, 1938

Mr. Neal F. Mears
P. O. Box 124
516 North Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mr. Mears:

Through the ten years which this Foundation has been working it has published a great many copies of Lincoln Lore which deal with the Hanks family, but we regret exceedingly that most of these are out of print, although they might be found I think in any of the Chicago libraries.

We are now publishing, also, to supplement Lincoln Lore, a monthly magazine called The Lincoln Kinsman. You will please find enclosed a recent copy referring to the Hanks family.

You are fortunate indeed that you are sufficiently supported by documents which go to print on this particular family, which as far as we know give positive evidence as to who Nancy Hanks actually was.

Yours very truly,

LAW:EB
Enc.

Director

516 N. Clark St.,
Chicago,
Dec. 16, 1938.

You may say that since I challenge the statements I should show cause. First, I can say that I have examined

Lincoln - 2 - 12/16/38

more than five thousand wills of early times in my professional practice and a goodly proportion of them had to be supplemented by other records, such as partition deeds, vital records, church records, court records, and other admissible evidence before the names of all members of the family could be obtained. Second, I can produce, at your request, the opinion of other expert genealogists who have had the same experience. Furthermore, there were well established rules of descent and distribution in use in various states which permitted, and even encouraged, the giving of property during the father's lifetime and the mention of only one child in the will. The use of the word "all" in describing children is a stumbling block to many persons who do not know these old customs. The omission of a son or daughter who had "misbehaved" is common.

I feel that your institution seeks the truth and I hope that if there are "contemporary documents" such as you mention that you will advise me where I can obtain them so that I, too, can get the truth. This is the first time I have heard of them in connection with the identity of Lucy Hanks.

Regarding the "Lucy Hanks Affirmation" the writer is again jumping to a conclusion when he or she says that if there been a "Miss" or "Mrs." before Lucy's name it might have clarified the situation. The title "Miss" was used for an unmarried woman, but so was "Mrs." This latter meant "Mistress" and indicated that the young lady was of a good family. Old records show hundreds, if not thousands, of instances.

It seems to me that the argument regarding this document could be settled once and for all by having it submitted to ultra-violet or infra-red rays. Then the remnant of the word above Lucy's name in your illustration might be deciphered. Do not, however, believe that the word "widow" prefixing a woman's name was common. I should like any proof the writer has to offer on this point.

Again let me thank you.

NFM/A

Very truly

Neal F. Mears
Neal F. Mears, A. M.



January 3, 1939

Mr. Neal F. Mears
P. O. Box 124
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mr. Mears:

Now that the holiday season is over I have found time to answer your communication with respect to our publications the Lincoln Kinsman and Lincoln Lore.

I regret the inconvenience which has been caused you by your not finding copies of the Lincoln Kinsman in the Chicago Library although if you will read my letter again you will note that I did not state Lincoln Kinsman could be found there but that copies of Lincoln Lore could be found there and I think you will discover them if you inquire for them.

With respect to the approach which was made in studying Lincoln's paternal ancestors was released in the Lincoln Kinsman No. 2. I would refer you again to the fourth paragraph in the article in which it was indicated that a documentary approach was to be made to the subject and the documents would be taken at their face value with no attempt to make them harmonize with theories or suppositions and on a further This I think will quite accurately describe the method and procedure and as far as we are able to observe there is nothing stated in the argument which is inconsistent with this viewpoint.

If you have in your possession such documents which do refute any of the statements made we would be delighted to be able to refer to them.

Enclosed you will please find an announcement of the publication of the Lincoln Kinsman and we will be happy to put you on our mailing list for the publication if you care to subscribe for it.

Very truly yours,

LAW:FW
L.A. Warren

Director

#32 / South Main St.
Lawrenceburg Ky.
Aug 6th 1942

Lincoln Life & Accident Insurance Co.

St. Wayne Ind.

Dear Sir:-

yesterday I had a
conversation with Mr. Ezra
Sparrow. I was inquiring
for Lincoln information
as I knew Mr. Sparrow's
ancestors had intermarried
with the Hinkle family.
Immediately Mr. Sparrow ad-

editor the late Henry Water
son so gallantly defended
calling her the fair haired
Monkey Hank.

Please honor me with
the copy Mr. Sparrow as-
sured me is available.

Respectfully

Mrs. Mary Worthing Bond
32, South Main St.
Lawrenceburg Ky.

2
vised me to write to the
Lincoln Lore department
of your Company and ask
for a copy of your Lin-
coln Lore Pamphlet as
Kentuckians are interested
in life of Lincoln only
this summer, I took
my sister from New York
to see the Lincoln birth-
place memorial and she
was ricking for the truth
about Lincoln and his
mother whom our great



Warren Family

August 11, 1942

Mrs. Mary D. Bond
#321 South Main Street
Lawrenceburg, Kentucky

My dear Mrs. Bond:

I do not know as I am going to be able to supply you with the information which you desire because of the great extent of our publications dealing with the Hanks and Sparrow families.

There was in Anderson County quite a large and prominent family of Hankses of which we have record here in our files, but this special branch of the family apparently receives little attention from Lincoln students.

I am taking the occasion to enclose a copy of the Lincoln Kinsman, a monthly publication issued by this Foundation which deals with the origin of Lincoln's mother which may give you some idea of the approach which our organization makes in historical questions.

I have often been in Lawrenceburg and having graduated from Transylvania University, I am quite familiar with the name "Bond" having known of people in both Hamilton College and Transylvania by that name.

If there are any specific questions about the Hanks or Sparrow families which you would like to ask, I would be pleased to do my best to answer them.

Very truly yours,

LAW:VFF
L.A. Warren

Director

3
ADRIAN ELY MOUNT
Editor

Telephone Atlantic 4240

BERNICE BROWN MOUNT
Business Manager

Genealogy & History

Box 1717, Washington, D. C.

Nov. 27, 1942

Dr. Louis A. Warren,
Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Box 1110, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Fellow-editor:

Apparently your staff does not read our magazine as thoroly as I read your periodicals, as we have been disappointed in not receiving an item for publication re the enclosed item 6501 in last issue. Of course I could look thru the "Lincoln Kinsman" and "Lincoln Lore" and find some appropriate paragraph or more to quote re the editorial note apropos Nancy Hicks but I was hoping you might be able to put your hands right on something which would dispose of her in few words and with finality, possibly even bringing in the name of Logsdon which is the family under discussion. Don't "let me down"!

June 15th we published as item 5634: "Want ancestry of Ward H. Lamon whom Pres. Lincoln appointed marshall for District of Columbia". The reference books at hand do not #even give his parents. Can you also help on this?

Issue 40 is on the press and 41 goes on the 8th.

Sep. 12, 1941 you asked me to tell you ("next time you write" which is this occasion) the author of "Lincoln and the Jews", mentioned in my letter of Aug. 31st. It is by Isaac Markens. As the vol. it is in is the only one of the "Publications of the American Jewish Historical Soc. which we have, I do not want to sell it but the Soc. prob-

ably has some copies available, which could
be "swapped" for some of your publications.
This vol. contains over 266 pages, octavo.

Hurriedly,

Adrian El Mount

P.S. - We have published no indices since
that for Vol. 1 but each item has always been
completely indexed in its heading. *U. S. M.*

4930-XHA 3(N.Y.): Logsdon, Durbin, Fowler, Davis, Wooley, Kelly, Hicks, Washington, Lincoln, Garrard, Kessinger, Atterbury; Md., Pa., Ky.

(c) William¹Logsdon, indentured immigrant in 1674, md. c1700 Honor . . . & they res. Baltimore Co., Md., on tract "Bedford," now in Carroll Co. Ch'n: (1) Anne, md. 1723 Samuel Durbin; (2) Honor, md. 1730 Richard Fowler; (3) Wm., md. 1730 Ann Davis; (4) John, md. 1735 Margaret Wooley; (5) Prudence, md. 1735 James Kelly; (6) Edward, md. Sarah . . . ; (7) Thomas².

Thomas²Logsdon was b. c1715; res. on tract "Wooleys Range," presumably purchased from John Wooley, fa. of his bro. William's w.; also owned "Mollys Industry" on Gunpowder R., Balt. Co.; steadily pushed westward & was res. S.E. of present Oakland, Md. 1784 when George Washington was returning from his trip to oust the "squatters" on his prop. in Washington Co., Pa. Washington records that he spent night of Sep. 26 at Thomas Logsdon's, near where Stoney R. empties into North Branch of Potomac R.; also refers to Thomas' "intelligent Brother" (we presume John, a surveyor). Thomas' son Joseph was guide for Washington the next day (27th) when they passed the house of *Nancy Hicks, mother of Abraham Lincoln*.

[The last phrase above will not go unchallenged by Washington & Lincoln students, we are confident, and believe we can promise a rebuttal item in issue 42 from Lincoln Nat'l Life Foundation which has devoted much attention to combatting "traditions" re Lincoln's anc., including the ones that he was son of above Nancy, & by Washington. -ed.]

Thos.²Logsdon md. Mary . . . & they had at least: (1) Joseph³; (2) Thos.³; (3) Wm.; (4) John; (5) Malinda.

Thos.³Logsdon c1790 moved to Madison Co., Ky.; appointed capt. in 3d Reg't, Hardin Co., Ky. 1797 by Gov. Garrard; had at least: (1) John; (2) Mary; (3) Thos.; (4) Ruth⁴; (5) Elizabeth⁴. Jos.³ above, who also moved to Ky., was known as "Big Joe"; md. Mary . . . & had "Bigger Joe" Logsdon, "the fightinest man on the frontier."

Ruth⁴Logsdon md. 1793 Joseph Kessinger & had Elizabeth who md. 1816 Michael Atterbury. Eliz.⁴Logsdon same yr. md. Solomon Kessinger.

If desired I can give many ref's for authentication of above line; also books re "the fightinest man." I have been preparing a monograph on this Logsdon fam. for abt. 2 yrs. & have 2000 names & dates & fam. rec's. The fact that their fam's ran from 5 to 19, & each succeeding generation used the same given names over & over again, makes the untangling of the skein very fascinating. -XECW(III.) Genealogy & History, D. C., 11-15-1942

December 2, 1942

Mr. Adrian Ely Mount
Genealogy and History
Box 1717
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

Although we usually scan through Genealogy & History when it arrives, we must admit that the little note with reference to Lucy Hanks and George Washington contacts escaped us.

We have come to the conclusion that probably the least we play up the West Virginia tradition even by attempting to repute it the sooner it will die of its own lack of documentary support.

If you care to do so, you might say that there is no evidence whatever to substantiate the fact that the mother of Abraham Lincoln was born or ever lived in Mineral County, West Virginia.

With reference to the Lamon biographical statement, I think probably the difficulty lies in the fact that the name is spelled four different ways, Lamon, Lamen, Lemon, etc.

If you will have your inquirer write to Mr. Clint Clay Tilton, Danville, Illinois, I think possibly he might be of some assistance.

We will try and keep closer watch of your columns hereafter.

Very truly yours,

LAW:CRS
L.A. Warren

Director

I had heard Mr. Lincoln broadcasting to Hingham Eng I took notes then wrote to him. Our minister says the Hingham Mass. home of seven Lincolns is the "Ship Church" with pyramidal roof and belfry date 1681. the oldest wooden church in the U S.

I also sent your magazine to a friend of mine in Meadville Pa. she was Miss. Hanks she says a relative of Va. Hanks family..

Joseph Hanks of Richmond Co. Va. left there in 1781 for Hampshire Co. Va.

east Va. now West Va. where the lands of the late Lord Fairfax were for sale. listed in 1782 census. I have the book and the page picture of his name. My great-great grandfather Rezin Howard listed also, my grandfather was born on one of the Fairfax farms in 1797, bought by his father. I have been to Romney several trips, I have seen the map picture of the Hanks land, I have a sketch made from it. In Mar. 1784 Joseph Hanks mortgaged his land to Peter Putman a German, and moved from the state, J. Hanks farm was in the lovely valley between Knobley and Saddleback mountains, on Forks of Mike's creek, of Patterson creek.

The U S offered \$ 50,000 for the home site and was refused, because it was worth more than that told me by Mr. Doll of this city whose father was born on same site but not same home, his cousins still live in the home of the picture I am sending this rather spoils the monument set to Nancy Hanks. of field stone and marble. (I think perhaps the old tree stood there then.)

Why they left Virginia I could not say. I hope I have not bored you too much with my letter of Lincoln vs Hanks.

Gertrude Howard Maire

Mr. Henry J. Maire

50 miles further east

Hankes James W. Va

March 11, 1943

Mrs. Henry J. Maire
Pennsboro, W. Va.

Dear Madam:

Thank you very much indeed for your letter with respect to the Hankses in West Virginia and I am very glad to have the photograph of the little marker which has been placed in Amelia County. I am quite familiar with the tradition there.

Very truly yours,

LAW:CRS
L.A. Warren

Director

6
Edward R. Allen

232 Windsor Drive
Fayetteville,
North Carolina
Nov. 17, 1947

Dr. Louis A. Watten
Director
The Lincoln National Life
Foundation
Lomb Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Watten:

At page 402 of Alley's "Random Thoughts and The Musings of a Mountaineer," the reader's attention is directed by Judge Alley to ten letters. The ten letters, according to the writer, are included in

Dr. Barton's work, the "Paternity of Abraham Lincoln," wherein the letters are said to be presented in a form requiring thirty-four pages for their presentation. The letters are the work of Mr. D. F. Knotts of Swansea, South Carolina. My own interest in the Knotts manuscript has two main points as a basis — first: Mr. Knotts' list of the children of Joseph and Nancy Shipley Hanks listed twelve offspring (Thomas, Joshua, William, Charles, Joseph, Jr., Richard, Luke, James, Lucy, Mary, Elizabeth and Nancy — eight boys and four girls), a list which would seem to confirm the fact beyond any reasonable doubt that my family's great-great-great maternal

grandfather, Richard who was commonly called Dickey, was an uncle of Nancy Hanks Lincoln who made her home with him during her early girlhood in Belmont, North Carolina. Secondly, I am interested, ^{to learn} by what specific reason, or through what special knowledge it may have been, Mr. Knott's included names in the premises, i. e., Richard, James and Lucy, which were not given in the work by Mrs. Hitchcock; it seems clear enough to me as to why Lucy was added by Mr. Knott to the list — Mr. Lincoln, himself, being author of the statement we are told by Herndon that his grandmother's name was Lucy Hanks. Perhaps it would be well, there-

fore, to inquire where I may obtain
Dr. Barton's book, The Paternity of Abra-
ham Lincoln, and Mrs. Hitchcock's work
on the Hanks genealogy, and also in-
quire as to the price of these materials.
I would like to get the Barton book
in particular as soon as possible.

In conclusion I acknowledge with
thanks my receipt of the J. S. Holland
book from your office last week.
I noticed you wrote that this was
a second-hand copy, but it certainly
is in remarkably excellent repair,
my friend, to remember it was pub-
lished in the year 1866 I think!

Trusting you're in the best of health
and enjoying all the many blessings
thereof, I remain, Mr. Warren,

Yours truly,

Edward Talcutt

December 1, 1947

Mr. Edward J. Calcutt
232 Windsor Drive
Fayetteville, N. C.

My dear Mr. Calcutt:

I am happy indeed to learn of some one who is placing a serious interest in the Hanks North Carolina and I rather feel you are in a position to work out a problem which has never been given the attention it deserves.

Before trying to outline any procedure, I am sending on to you with my compliments a copy of Modern Paternity which, although somewhat worn, I think will be adequate for your use.

When you have gone through this book, perhaps there are other questions you would like to ask.

If you can find a copy of a more recent book by Barton on the lineage of Abraham Lincoln, it would be well to acquire that if you might happen to have an extra copy.

I have done considerable work in the North Carolina records and have also had some correspondence with Mr. Knotts.

We will be happy to assist you all that we can in your Hanks project.

Very truly yours,

Director

LAW:CM
L.A. Warren

#479 ✓ sent 2/3/49

MRS. JAMES O. FRANKLIN
558 South Main Street
Lawrenceburg, Kentucky

Jan. 27 '49

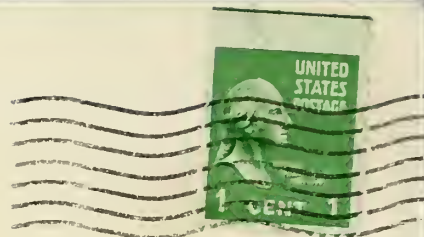
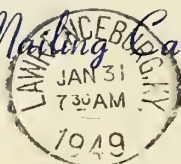
Dear Dr. Warren,

I've been
talking with Rev. Ezra Sparrow
about the Lincoln-Hanks
Sparrow connection & he
suggested that I write
you for all this. He said
it was the Lincoln News
of June 13-1938, called
"List of relatives of Lincoln's
mother."

I shall greatly appreciate
having this & thanks,

Mrs. Jas. O. Franklin

Private Mailing Card



Dr. Louis A. Warren

H. Wayne,

Go Lincoln Nat'l Life
Insurance Co.,

Ind.

J. J. WHITEHOUSE
MINISTER, CHRISTIAN CHURCH
456 LOCUST STREET
CARLISLE, KENTUCKY
2/23/54

Dr. L. R. Warren,
Ft Wayne Indiana

Dear Brother Warren;

I am enclosing a letter from my niece, Mrs. A. P. Curl, Memphis, Tenn. (2583 Autumn, Memphis 12) together with a "Form" requesting information in Re- Henry Sparrow I and II. I do not have sufficient information to answer her questions. I am therefore sending this on to you in the hope that you can supply her with the information necessary for her purpose. I think that her letter will reveal to you what she desires and why she wants it. I can secure the information requested under 2 and 3 of the "Form."

Any information that you can send to her will be greatly appreciated by her and accepted as a personal favor to me. In fact, if she is successful in securing adequate information in Re- Henry Sparrow I, to obtain her D.A.R. membership through that line--already established through her mother-- my daughter can use the same information to secure her membership in the D.A.R.

Thanking your for this favor, and with every good wish to you and yours, I am,

Your friend and brother,


J. J. Whitehouse

P. S. Please return the enclosed "form" to her

March 2, 1954

Rev. J. J. Whitehouse
456 Locust Street
Carlisle, Kentucky

Dear Rev. Whitehouse:

I am returning to your niece, Mrs. A. P. Gurl of Memphis, Tenn. her Applicant's Working Sheet for the D. A. R. together with Lincoln Lore No. 479 and The Lincoln Kinman No. 11 which should be of help to her in filling out a portion of the application.

Dr. Warren is at present on the West Coast on his annual speaking itinerary. Upon his return I will bring your letter to his attention as I know he will be pleased to hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Hoellering
Secretary to Dr. Warren

m/m
enc.

①
Enclose Lincoln Lore

oms
3/21/57

5819 E Washington St.
Indianapolis 19 Ind.
Feb. 18th 1957

Dr. R. Gerald McMurty,
Rudisill Blvd.
Fort Wayne, Ind.
Dear Dr. McMurty;

I have just finished reading " The Lincoln Cult " in the current issue of the Saturday Evening Post. It has occurred to me that with the quantities of Lincoln lore at hand you might be able to give me some information, concerning one phase of Hanks family. In Barton's Life of Lincoln I came across the following permit which has do do with the marriage of Lucy Hanks to Henry Sparrow. The permit reads;

" I do certify that I am of age and give my approbation freely for henry Sparrow to get out Lisons this or enny other day. given under my hand this day April 26 1790."

test
Robert michel
john berry

sig. Lucey Hanks.

I understand of course, that you would not be expected to know the family tree of every name coming in contact with the Lincoln family. I have written a history of my branch of the Mitchell and have wondered many times if " Robert michel " the testator could have been my great-great grandfather Robert Mitchell. The sketch below will explain why.

Robert Mitchell, b. Ireland, 10.8.1740; d. Washington Co. Ind 9.29.1825. m in Maryland to Elizabeth Campbell, b.2.8.1749. d. Wash. Co. Ind. Came to Ameroca prior to Rev. War. Lived in Maryland, No. Carolina in 1776. On the Monongahelia, in Pa. down the Ohio in 1785 and "landed" at present site of Louisville. Lived on Beargrass creek (Louisville) and moved to Mercer Co. Ky. ~~xxx~~ in 1787 and sett. near Danville. To Shelby Co. Ky. in 1800, to Clark Co. Ind in 1816, to Wash. Co. Ind. in 1817 where he d. Ch.

Sarah Mitchell m Jesse Rice 1.1792 Mercer Co.
James Mitchell, b.9.22.1772;
Jane Mitchell m William Lee, 1.23.1794, Mercer Co.
Thomas Mitchell m Elizabeth Harmon, 10.18.1798, Woodford Co.
Samuel H Mitchell m Lena Mount, 12.21.1807, Shelby Co
Elizabeth Mitchell m John Lee, 10.18.1798, Mercer Co.
Joseph F. Mitchell m Judian Benson, 12.29.1807 Shelby Co.
Robert B. Mitchell m Anna Ridgeway, 6.15.1813. Shelby Co.
William Mitchell m Polly Doran, 11.22.1807, Shelby Co. Ky.
John Mitchell m Rosanna Benson, 8.26.1813, Shelby Co. Ky.
Jonathan Mitchell m Nancy McCampbell, 5.20.1819, Clark Co. Ind.

Do you have any material that would identify R.M. the testator with the above Robert Mitchell.

Yours truly,

Will H. Mitchell.

Wells Disputes Lewis Remarks On Abe Lincoln

(The following letter is addressed to Joseph Lewis of Purdys, atheist and leader of the Free Thinkers of America. —Ed.)

Dear Mr. Lewis:

I have read your radio address delivered February 24, 1957, from Miami, Fla., over WMLE and published in the June issue of *The Age of Reason*.

In it you state that Lincoln never knew his real father and

got his name from his step-father and that his feelings were hurt by this irregular background. I am quite sure you are wrong in your statements. Abraham Lincoln's father was Thomas Lincoln, a carpenter, and his mother was Nancy Hanks Lincoln, the illegitimate daughter of Lucy Hanks. Nancy's father is not definitely known. In volume 1 of the two volume "The Life of Abraham Lincoln" by William E. Barton, opposite page 16 is a photograph of the marriage bond for the marriage of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks dated June 10th, 1806, signed by Thomas Lincoln and Richard Berry as guardian. Two days later Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks were married by Jesse Head. Opposite page 20 in the same volume is the photographed marriage return (re-

port) of Jesse Head dated April 22nd, 1807 showing he married Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks June 10th, 1806 (blurred). Jesse Head was a pioneer preacher. Abraham Lincoln was born in 1809. Mr. Barton seems to have been a very careful investigator. His books came out about 1925. On April 26, 1790 Henry Sparrow, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, and his brother-in-law, John Daniel, gave a bond for a license of marriage between Henry Sparrow and Lucy Hanks. Almost a year later they were married by the Reverend John Bailey, a Baptist preacher. They became the parents of eight children. They lived together for about thirty four years. Abraham Lincoln did not have a step-father, as you state. Nancy Hanks Lincoln, his mother, died October 5, 1818 when Abraham was nine. On December 2nd, 1819, a little more than a year after the death of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, Thomas Lincoln married Mrs. Sarah Bush Johnson. She was the widow of Daniel Johnson, jailer of Hardin County, Kentucky. She became Abraham Lincoln's step-mother.

—HENRY B. WELLS,
Brewster

Thomas Lincoln Not Father Of President, Lewis Claims

To the Editor:

This is in reply to the letter of Mr. Henry H. Wells which appeared in Patent Trader, Sunday, September 29, regarding a radio address I delivered on Abraham Lincoln, over Radio Station WMIE, Miami, Fla., February 24, 1957, and reprinted in The Age of Reason Magazine, June, 1957.

In this address, I stated that Abraham Lincoln did not know his real father.

These are the facts: Thomas Lincoln, the husband of Nancy Hanks, the mother of Abraham Lincoln, while he was the child's legal father, the boy was NOT his natural son.

For years, many historians and some over-zealous clergymen, among them William E. Barton, have been making heroic attempts to falsify or conceal the real parentage of Abraham Lincoln.

Thomas Lincoln, a man of meager means and less than ordinary talents, proposed marriage to a Miss Sarah Bush. Miss Bush did not accept Thomas Lincoln's proposal, but instead married Daniel Johnson. Thomas Lincoln, seeking a housewife, then married Nancy Hanks, who, herself, was an illegitimate child. The marriage took place September 23, 1806, and the first child was born on 12th of February, 1807, less than five months after the marriage ceremony. It was generally known that Thomas Lincoln was incapable of having children. As a young man he had contracted the mumps which had left him sterile.

A Thomas Enlow used to brag that HE was the father of Abraham Lincoln. This is supported by the fact that Thomas Lincoln caught Enlow and Nancy Hanks in a compromising situation and a bitter fight ensued. This fight was responsible for the Lincolns leaving Kentucky and moving to Indiana, where Nancy Hanks had no more children.

Proposes Again

Shortly after his wife's death, Thomas Lincoln, having heard Sarah Bush was now a widow, returned to Kentucky, and proposed marriage again to her. This time she accepted him. While married to Daniel Johnson, Sarah Bush bore him two children; she had no children after having married Thomas Lincoln. This is considered significant in view of Thomas Lincoln's physical condition.

I had the good fortune to meet many years ago, while looking up some references in the New Rochelle Library, Jesse Weik the collaborator of William Herndon who was the law partner and biographer of Abraham Lincoln. I related these facts to Mr. Weik, and he replied that everything I said was true, although he, himself, would not make these facts public. I asked him if there was any objection to my making them public, and he replied he did not think so. I visited Mr. Weik, who was then living with his daughter in New Rochelle, and corresponded with him until his death.

It is from Herndon's Life of Lincoln, as well as from his correspondence, that much of this material concerning Lincoln's parentage will be found.

When Lincoln became fully aware of the facts regarding his birth and lowly origin, it left a deep scar upon his sensitive mentality, which became more poignant with the years, and undoubtedly accounted for the deep channels of sorrow that lined his face. He was often heard to sigh, almost unconsciously and impul-

sively, "My poor mother, my poor mother."

In order that there might be no misunderstanding regarding my great admiration for Abraham Lincoln, I would like to end this letter with the concluding remarks of my radio address:

Radio Address

"It is the duty of the soldier upon battlefield to carry the flag of the country for which he fights, and if perchance he is shot and wounded and falls, another soldier must lift it from his hands and carry it high to battle. This was the task delegated to Lincoln. He carried the flag of freedom which the American Revolutionists had given to Washington, and just as victory was won, just as he crossed the line with the flag waving high, this grand man, this soldier of the Republic, this Liberator, was struck down in battle and died that millions might be free!

"Upon the grave of Lincoln, the military soldier, let us drop flowers of gratitude, and upon the brow of Lincoln the Emancipator, the soldier in the Army of Freedom, let us place a laurel wreath, as a symbol of the everlasting love, and thanks of the human race."

JOSEPH LEWIS
Purdys

Lewis Letter On Lincoln Brings Praise

To the Editor:

Joseph Lewis has done a distinct service to your readers (Sunday, October 6) in pointing out that Thomas Lincoln, albeit legally the father of Abraham Lincoln was not and could not have been his actual ("natural") father.

This is not at all in disparagement of our great Civil War President. It detracts not a whit from his greatness. But it does point up a lesson important for many of our citizenry who on occasion have displayed discriminatory attitudes. Lincoln was a man of infinite compassion and understanding. Technically he was born in wedlock. But he would have been, in every way just as great, and in every way just as noble had he actually been born out of wedlock. An accident of birth does not make for greatness. Mayflower

descendents, D.A.R.'s and F.F.V.'s please take notice.

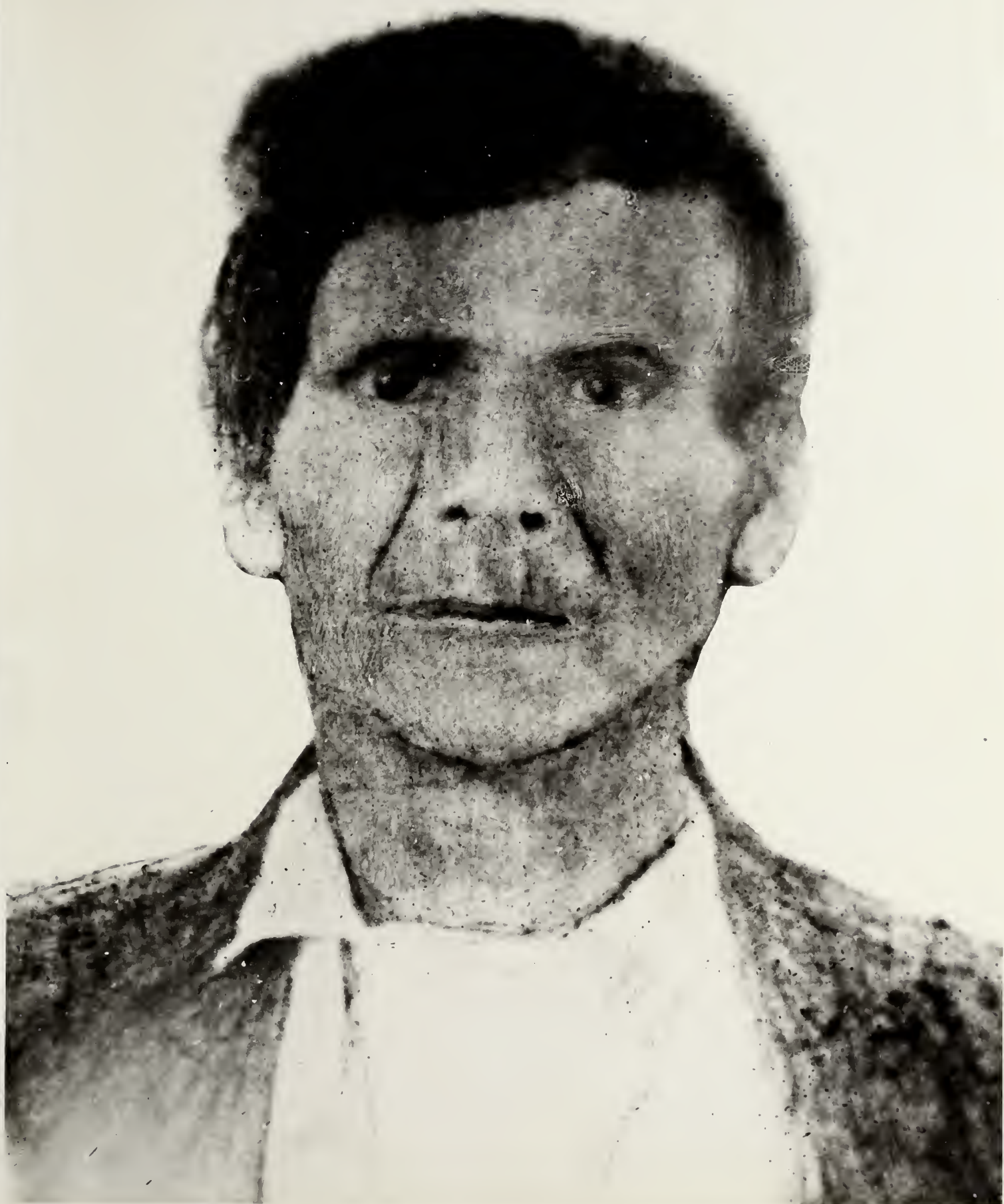
There is no hell on earth quite equal to that suffered by a child born out of wedlock who is reared in a small town. From the moment of birth he is the subject of banter, gossip and jocose speculation. This follows him all through his school years. His playmates are admonished by their parents that he "Isn't a very nice little boy to play with." In the very school he is often the subject of hushed, whispered conversations. He must grow up in an atmosphere of extreme hostility and community rejection.

Discrimination is a horrible thing. It matters little why one is discriminated against. It may be for race. It may be for the "bar sinister," it may even be because a child is just plain poor. In any case it hurts just as much. It leaves the same scars.

Every child is entitled to community acceptance. But we do have many scapegoats. Why should such things be?

LUDWIG G. ANGER

Somers



My dear Mr. Son.
I am very glad to hear

of your journey for Henry
I was so to get out of town
thus on every other day
given me many thanks

Thurs day April 26 1790.
Yours Robert Lucey
Mechanic - Haverhill
Chamberly



this monument
is larger than
this shows.
end find

President Lincoln knew that his father had been born in Rockingham count, Virginia, Lacy Springs where the Lincoln home stands wished to change the name of the village to that of Lincoln, but the southern opposition to Lincoln was to strong .

He knew, also, that his mother, Nancy Hanks, was born in Virginia, but in what part of Virginia he did not relate. No one of the Hanks family ever told of the location.

No careful inquiry was made until 1865, by that time all of her generation were dead. The oldest relatives of Lincoln who bore the name of Hanks were born in Kentucky may not of known.

In 1899 there was an attempt made to discover the county in which the presidents mother had her birth. For the next 25 years writers of Lincoln accepted a story that had never been proved . Early in 1920 Mr. William E. Barton published a large work on "The Soul of Abraham Lincoln" later on "The Paternity of Abraham Lincoln" said until then I too accepted the story of the Amelia county birth, narrative then I knew that I must investigate , and with an open mind I began in 1921 and I found that the family of Amelia county were that of Hawks , records had been copied and the name changed to Hanks.

For three years Mr. Barton searched counties of southern Virginia, the result thus far was, the Hanks family had been resident in Richmond county secth since before 1652.

Iefound the date of baptism of Joseph Hanks , in North Farnham county parish in 1725. This was Nancy Hanks' grandfather, and he died in Nelson county Ky. in 1792, his will probated May 14th. Of his nine children, only one Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Ann Hanks , baptized May 4, 1771.

Catherine Hanks mother of Joseph, died in 1779, after a widowhood of 39 year. Joseph her second son and administrator and his wife Ann dissappeared from the Northern Neck.

With the help of the U S census bureau he learned that a Joseph Hanks with a family eleven whites were in the 1782 census of Hampshire county Va.

Then Mr. Barton with the locality in mind set out to visit the spot. He went to Romney courthouse where he learned that in March 1784, Joseph Hanks mortgaged his farm to a German neighbor named Peter Putnam and moved from the county and state.

The next morning he hired a man to take him into the hills watching the record of mileage he checked by map until he came to Mike's Run .

They crossed it found the Putnam house with an old road leading to the right up Mike's Run.

They had found the site of the home where the mother of President Lincoln was born, and the spring from which the family obtained water. The first two men to visit it knowing that it was so.

On April 19, 1927 , simple ceremonies were held by the spring and tumbled foundation stones that gave the location of the home.

Pictures were taken and the story told in the Dearborn June 27 Mr. Henry Fords publication. (I think now out of print)

Mrs. Henry Maire.

*a page torn from my scrap book for you.
S.M.*

NANCY HANKS LINCOLN

Cannon City ,Colo Feb.25'1895

Mrs. Lincoln's mother was Lucy Hanks judging from the best information we can obtain.

Mrs. M.A.Wilson

Canon City, Colo. March,13,1895

You ask whay we think of the letters enclosed . Mr.Weik's letter is only a repition of the Herndon theory, while that of Mr. Whitney has given a new light on the subject. We have always been loath to beleive the story of the illigitimacy of Lincoln's mother and would welcome gladly undisputed evidence that she was a brothers daughter and a step daughter of Henry Sparrow as Mr. Whitney affirms.

Mrs. M.A.Wilson

Canon City Colo. April16,1895

Grandfather never said as we know of that Lincoln's mother was his sister. She was his neice we think as Mr. Whitney states in the letter you sent us to read.

Mrs. M. A. Wilson

Mountain Peak Texas, Mar 31,1896

Elizabeth Hall (sister of Levi Hall) married Dennis Hanks not the late Dennis Hanks who died in 93 but an Uncle of his. I dont know how many children Elizabeth Hall Hanks had but she was the mother of Nancy Hanks Lincoln the mother of Abraham Lincoln.

Mrs. M.A.Beal

Mr. Lincoln stated to me in 1861, that his mother was born in Virginia, that she came to Kentucky with some of her relations and not with her parents, but gave me no other clue.

J. H. Barrett

Marker

A boulder marks the site of the home of Nancy and Dicky Hanks. On the face of this boulder, which is of massive granite is a bronze tablet bearing a replica of a frontier cabin and the following inscription: " This stone marks the site of the log cabin home of Dicky Hanks, an uncle of Nancy Hanks, mother of Abraham Lincoln. Nancy spent much of her girlhood here with her uncle."

Mrs. Emma Jane Pratt

THE SHIPLEY ANCESTRY OF LINCOLN'S MOTHER

Evidence available seems to make it reasonably sure that Abraham Lincoln's maternal grandmother was Lucy Shipley Hanks, and it is now possible to trace with some degree of accuracy the Shipley line of descent back to the first American Shipley.

The first man, in America, to whom the Lincoln branch of the Shipley family traces its ancestry was named Adam. This Adam Shipley settled in Maryland in 1668, not far from Annapolis. In 1661 a tract of land was surveyed for him bordering on the Severn River. It consisted of 200 acres and was called "Shipley's Choice."

Adam's wife was named Lois, and she died a widow in 1725. How many years before this Adam passed away is not known. Tradition claims there were nine sons and two daughters born to Adam and Lois Shipley. The names of but three of them are known: Richard, Robert, and Lois. Of these children Robert is the one through whom Lincoln's maternal ancestry is traced.

Letter written to Mr Barton April 23 1922 by
 Henry A Stevenson

Clerk would not let her take out papers but -
 (Henry Hanks intercepts)

"If I sleep when it is now it is not at all important
 that it will be lost I will just take it out and send it to
 you and you will return it to me."

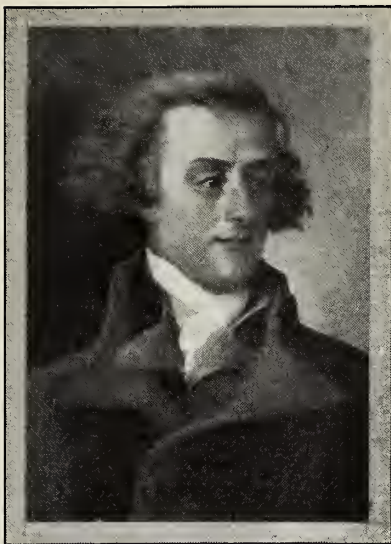
Letter April 17 1922

"The clerk said it is against the law for these visitors
 to go outside of the clerk's office. I was glad he did
 not know how many I had already in my home.
 When Mr. Gibbs let me know then he said that we are free. - -"

Henry's farm land was in North Rollins Fork
 now in Bayle County

John Berry's farm also in Baxter Fork
 20 miles from Spanaway to Berechling

THE COMPENDIUM OF AMERICAN GENEALOGY



THOMAS JEFFERSON at age 33.

- 1-BURKE, Fanny Maury, b Alexandria, Va., Mar. 25, 1861.
- 11-John Rolfe, first sec. and recorder Colony of Va.; m 1613, Pocahontas (1595-1617);
- 10-Thomas (b 1614), m Jane Poythress;
- 9-Jane (d 1678), m 1675, Col. Robert Bolling (qv);
- 8-Col. John (1676-1729), m Mary Kennon (Dr. Richard^s, of Conjuror's Neck, Va.);
- 7-Jane (1708-66), m Col. Richard Randolph (1695-1748), of "Curles"; burgess and treas. Va. Colony (Col. William^s, qv);
- 6-Mary (1727-81), m 1744, Col. Archibald Cary (1720-1786), of "Amphill"; speaker Va. House of Burgesses and State Senate; mem. Va. Conv. of 1776 (Henry^s; Col. Miles^s, qv);
- 5-Ann, m Col. Thomas Mann Randolph, of "Tuckahoe"; col. Va. troops in Am. Rev. (Col. William^s, of "Tuckahoe," burgess, m Maria Judith, dau. of Hon. Mann Page, of "Rosewell"; Thomas^s; Col. Williams^s, qv);
- 4-Thomas Mann (1768-1828), of "Tuckahoe"; rep. 8th and 9th Congresses, 1803-07; gov. of Va., 1819-21; m 1790, Martha Jefferson;
- 3-Virginia J., m Nicholas Philip Trist (1800-74);
- 2-Martha Jefferson (2 below).
- 9-John Jefferson, from Wales; among the first settlers of Va.; lived at Osborne's on the James; burgess, 1619; and thru his g.son:
- 7-Capt. Thomas;
- 6-Peter (1707/08-1757), of "Shadwell"; adj. gen. of Va.; m 1729, Jane Randolph (Isham^s, of "Dungeness");
- 5-Thomas (1743-1826), author of the Declaration of Independence and 3d President of the U.S. (see portrait above); m Martha Wayles;
- 4-Martha, m 1790, Thomas Mann Randolph (4 above).
- 2-John Woolfolk Burke (1824-1907), of "Ivy Mount," Caroline Co., Va.; mem. firm of Burke & Herbert, bankers; m 1852, Julia Thompson; m 2d, 1858, Martha Jefferson Trist (1826-1915); issue (1st marriage): I-Julian Thompson (1854-1916; m Esther Dashiell Taylor); issue (2d marriage): I-Nicholas Philip Trist (1859-1907; m Jane Revere Reynolds); II-Fanny M. (1 above); III-John W. (d aet. 2½); IV-Harry Randolph (b 1864; m Rosella Trist, of New Orleans, La.); V-Virginia Randolph (b 1866); VI-Ellen Coolidge (b 1868; m Charles B. Eddy); VII-Edmund Jefferson (b 1870; m Gertrude Story).
- 1-Mem. C.D.A. Residence: 208 Wilkes St., Alexandria, Va.



SARGENT.

Arms: Gules, a bend nebulee or between three dolphins embowed sable.
Crest: A dolphin embowed or, guttée azure.

- 1-SARGENT, J(ames) Gordon, b "Gloucester Place," nr. Natchez, Miss., July 25, 1863.
- 7-William Sargent, settled at Gloucester, Mass., ca. 1678; m 1678, Mary Duncan (Peter^s, m Mary Epes, step-dau. of Samuel Symonds, dep. gov. Mass., m Martha [Reade] Epes);
- 6-Epes (1690-1762), justice of Essex Co., Mass.; maj. Essex Co. militia; rep. Gen. Court; he and his sons owned nearly all of East Gloucester; Sargent family museum at Gloucester contains many family heirlooms, Copley family portraits, etc.; m 2d, his third cousin, Catherine Winthrop (1711-81; John^s; Gov. John^s, of Conn.);
- 5-Winthrop (1727-93), Gloucester, Mass.; m Judith Saunders (Thomas^s, m Judith Robinson);



WINTHROP SARGENT.

- 4-Winthrop (1753-1820), A.B., Harvard, 1771, A.M., 1774; capt. of arty. thruout Am. Rev., attaining rank of major; wintered at Valley Forge; sec. of N.W.Ty., at Cincinnati, O., 1789-98; first gov. of Miss. Ty., 1798-1801; charter mem. Order of the Cincinnati (see portrait above); m 2d, 1798, Mary (McIntosh) Williams (1764-1844; William McIntosh^s, from Scotland, m Eunice Hawley);
- 3-George Washington (1802-64), of "Gloucester Place," nr. Natchez, Miss.; A.B., Harvard, 1820, A.M., 1823; m 1824, Isabella Percy (1802-1865; Robert^s);
- 2-George (1831-93), served in Texas cav., C.S.A., 1862-65; m 1860, Julia Gordon (James^s, of Verona Plantation, La., m Harriett Moore).
- 1-m Nov. 15, 1898, Lucia Ballard, b "Chatham Plantation," Ascension Parish, La., Feb. 14, 1872; dau. of Dr. William Henry Ballard, and sister of Mrs. Robert Howe Dicks (qv for genealogy); issue (all b New Orleans, La.): 1-Margaret Winthrop, b 1903; 2-James Gordon, Jr., b 1908; 3-Mary Whitmell Pugh, b 1910; 4-Catherine Winthrop, b 1911.

I wish to congratulate you upon the splendid work you have accomplished. It is indeed a valuable book of reference, and I greatly appreciate having it in my library.—HON. C. A. PUGSELEY, Past President General, National Society S. A. R.



RICHARD COCKE (d 1665), of "Brema," Henrico Co., Va. Founder of the family in America. Mem. Va. House of Burgesses, 1632.

- 1-COCKE, Ella Meredith, b Richmond, Va., June 25, 1873.
- 9-Richard Cocke (qv);
- 8-Richard (1639-1706), of "Brema," Henrico Co., Va.; surveyor; mem. Co. Ct.; m Elizabeth Hartwell;
- 7-Richard (1672-1720), of "Brema"; m Anne Bowler (1675-1705; Maj. Thomas^s [d 1679], of Rappahannock Co., Va., mem. Va. Council, 1670, m Tabitha Edloe);
- 6-Bowler (1636-1771), of "Brema," but d at "Shirley," on the James; burgess, 1752, 1756-61; m Sarah- (d 1736);
- 5-Col. Bowler (1726-72), of "Brema"; burgess, 1761-65 and 1767-69; m Elizabeth Fauntleroy;
- 4-William (d 1825), moved from "Brema," ca. 1788, to "Oakland" in (now) Cumberland Co., Va.; m 1789, Jane Armistead;
- 3-William Armistead (1798-1856), m 1835, Elizabeth Randolph Preston;
- 2-Preston (2 below).
- 9-Maj. Moore Fauntleroy (1616-65), from Eng., to Newport News, Va., 1643; cavalier; burgess, 1644-47; m 1647, Mary Hill;
- 8-William, of Rappahannock Co., Va.; m Katherine Griffin (Col. Samuel^s, of Northumberland Co.);
- 7-Col. William (1684-1757), of "Naylor's Hole," Richmond Co., Va.; burgess, 1736-40; m Apphia Bushrod;
- 6-Col. William (1713-93), of "Naylor's Hole"; m 1st, Elizabeth-;
- 5-Elizabeth (d 1792), m Bowler Cocke (5 above).
- 8-Col. John Armistead (qv);
- 7-Col. Henry (d 1739 or 40), of "Hesse," on the Pianketank River; lt. Caroline Co., Va., 1733; m Martha Burwell (bap. 1685; Maj. Lewis^s, councillor, Va., 1702, m Abigail Smith);
- 6-William (d 1755), m 2d, 1738/39, Mary Bowles (Hon. James^s, of Gloucester Co., Md., mem. Council, m Rebecca, dau. of Thomas Tasker, treas. of Md.; Tobias^s, of London, engaged in Va. trade);
- 5-William, m Maria Carter (Charles^s [1707-64], of "Cleve," burgess, m Ann [1725-57], dau. of William Byrd [1674-1744]; Robert^s, of "Corotoman," treas. Va., pres. Council; John^s, qv);
- 4-Jane, of "Hesse Cassel," m William Cocke (4 above).
- 8-William Randolph (qv);
- 7-Sir John (1693-1737), speaker Va. House of Burgesses; treas. Va. Colony; m Susan Beverly (Peter^s, speaker House of Burgesses, 1700-1714, treas., 1710-23, m Elizabeth, dau. of Maj. Robert Peyton; Maj. Robert^s [d 1686], officer in colonial wars);
- 6-John (1728-84), king's atty. gen. for Va. Colony; m Ariana Jennings (Edmund^s [d 1756], sec. for Colony of Md., m Ariana, dau. of Matthias Vanderhelden, of Albany, m Margaretta, dau. Capt. Augustine Heerman, of Md.; Edmund^s [1659-1727], pres. Va. Council, 1706, m Frances, dau. Henry Corbin, qv);
- 5-Edmund (1753-1813), grad. William and Mary Coll.; 1st Atty. Gen. and 2d Sec. of State of U.S.; mem. Conv., 1776; m Elizabeth Carter Nicholas (1753-1810; Robert C.^s [ca. 1723-80], treas. of Va., m Anne, dau. of Col. Wilson Cary; Dr. George^s, m Elizabeth, dau. of Col. Robert Carter, acting gov. of Va., m Judith Armistead);
- 4-Edmonia Madison, m Thomas Lewis Preston (William^s [b 1732], burgess; John^s, qv);
- 3-Elizabeth Randolph (1808-89), m William A. Cocke (3 above).
- 9-Robert Booth (d 1657), an early settler of York Co., Va.; clk. of Co., 1640-57; burgess, 1653-54; m Frances-;
- 8-Anna, as Widow Dennett, m 2d, William Clifton, of St. Peter's Parish, New Kent Co., Va.;
- 7-William, m Joyce Wilkinson;
- 6-William, m Elizabeth Dorrall Ford;
- 5-Anna Layne, m Elisha Meredith (Elisha^s, m Elizabeth, dau. James Cocke [1666-1721], burgess, 1698-99, m 1691, Elizabeth Pleasants);
- 4-Robert, m Mary T. Anderson;
- 3-John Alexander (1814-82), atty. and judge of the Commonwealth; state senator; mem. Constl. Conv., 1850; mem. Com. for Surrender of Richmond to Federal Army; m Sarah Ann Bernard;
- 2-Eliza Bernard (2 below).
- 10-William Ball (qv);
- 9-Capt. William (1641-94), justice; burgess; m 2d, Miss Harris;
- 8-Capt. Joseph (1680-1721), of "Coan," Northumberland Co.; m Mary Spencer;
- 7-Col. Spencer (ca. 1700-05-1767), capt.; justice; burgess; m Miss Mottram;
- 6-Judith, m William Roane;
- 5-Sarah, m James Dykes;
- 4-Sarah (1799-1860), m William Bernard;
- 3-Sarah Ann (1817-89), m John Alexander Meredith (3 above).
- 11-Col. John Walker, mem. Council, 1656-58;
- 10-Anne, m John Paine, Jr.;
- 9-Elizabeth, m Henry Thacker;
- 8-Frances, m Thomas Vivian, justice King George Co., 1722;
- 7-Margaret, m Thomas Pratt;
- 6-Elizabeth, m John Hipkins;
- 5-Fanny, m William Bernard (William^s, b 1730 mem. Com. of Safety, 1775, m Sarah Savigné; Richard^s, justice Northumberland Co., 1757, m Elizabeth Hart; John^s; Richard^s; [1608-50], from Eng. to Va., m Anna Corderoy);
- 4-William, m Sarah Dykes (4 above).
- 2-Eliza Bernard Meredith (1848-1922), m 1870, Preston Cocke (1845-1917), cadet V.M.I. in Battle of New Market, 1864; pvt. C.S.A.; issue: I-Ella Meredith (1 above); II-Edmonia Madison Randolph (d aet. 8); III-Sarah Bernard (b 1885; m Joseph Pope Nash, b 1880); IV-Elizabeth Preston (b 1891).
- 1-Mem. C.D.A. Residence: 923 W. Franklin St., Richmond, Va.
- 1-PENDLETON, Francis Key, b Cincinnati, O., Jan. 3, 1850.
- 7-Philip Pendleton (qv);
- 6-Henry (1683-1721), m Mary Taylor (Col. James^s, of Va.); among their sons was Edmund, who wrote the resolutions which the Va. Conv. of 1776, of which he was pres., instructed its delegate, Richard Lee, to offer in Congress, declaring the United States free and independent;
- 5-Nathaniel (1715-94), capt. Am. Rev.; m 1740, his cousin, Elizabeth Ann Clayton;
- 4-Maj. Nathaniel (1746-1821), a.-d.-c. on staff of Gen. Greene in Am. Rev.; maj. Am. Rev.; chancellor of Ga., later apptd. by President Washington U.S. judge for Ga.; del. Constl. Conv. 1787; m Susan Bard (Dr. John^s; Peter Bevoit^s?, from France to Burlington, N.J., 1685, judge Supreme Ct., of N.J.);
- 3-Hon. Nathaniel Greene (1793-1861), A.B., Columbia, 1813; a.-d.-c. to Gen. Gaines in War of 1812; mem. 27th Congress; m Jane Frances Hunt;

A work that will put generations to come under tribute to you.—RT. REV. WILLIAM THEODOTUS CAPERS, Bishop of West Texas, San Antonio, Tex.

THE COMPENDIUM OF AMERICAN GENEALOGY



PENDLETON.

Arms: Gules, an inescutcheon argent between four escallops in saltire or.
Crest: On a chapeau gules, turned up ermine, a demi-dragon wings endorsed or, holding an escallop argent.

- 2-George Hunt (2 below).
- 8-John **Clayton** (qv);
- 7-Samuel (1685-1735), m 1702, Elizabeth Pendleton (1685-1761; Philip^s);
- 6-Philip (1702-82), of "Catalpa," Va.; maj. French and Indian War; m Anne Coleman;
- 5-Elizabeth Ann (b 1723), m 1740, Nathaniel **Pendleton** (5 above).
- 6-Philip **Key** (1696-1754), from Eng., settled in St. Mary's Co., Md., ca. 1720; lord high sheriff St. Mary's Co.; m Susanna Gardiner (desc. Richard Gardiner, of St. Mary's Co., Md.);
- 5-Francis (1731-32-1770), m Anne Arnold Ross;
- 4-Lt. John Ross (1754-1821), officer Am. Rev.; m Phebe Penn Dagworthy Charlton;
- 3-Francis Scott (1779-1843), author of "The Star Spangled Banner"; m Mary Tayloe Lloyd (sister of Edward Lloyd, gov. of Md., 1809-11);
- 2-Alice, m Hon. George Hunt **Pendleton** (1825-1889), mem. 35th to 38th Congresses, 1857-65; U.S. senator, 1870-85; minister to Germany, 1885-89; issue: I-Francis Key (1 above); II-Mary Lloyd (married John Rutledge Abney); III-Jane Frances (m Arthur T. Brice).
- 1-m June 24, 1885, Sarah Marie (d 1886).
- 1-m 2d, Dec. 10, 1890, Elizabeth La Montagne, b New York; dau. of Augustus La Montagne, of New York; issue: 1-George Hunt, b Lenox, Mass., Aug. 9, 1897; Harvard, ex-'19; 2d and 1st lt. of inf., and with A.E.F. in France, and Army of Occupation, Germany, Sept. 1917-Apr. 1919; twice wounded; cited for bravery and awarded Croix de Guerre (Belgian), and made hon. mem. Regimente des Guides.
- 1-A.B., Harvard, '70, LL.B., 1875 (Porcellian, Alpha Delta, Hasty Pudding, D.K.E., Institute). Lawyer; corpn. counsel City of New York, 1907-10; justice Supreme Ct. of N.Y., 1911-20 (see Who's Who in America). Pres. Soc. Cincinnati in N.Y. Clubs: Knickerbocker, Union, Metropolitan, Harvard, Manhattan, Turf and Field, Piping Rock, Meadow Brook. Residence: 7 E. 86th St., New York.
- 1-**DEPEW**, Ganson, b Buffalo, N.Y., Mar. 6, 1866.
- 8-James (DuPuy) **Depew** (d 1689);
- 7-John (d 1744), m Eliza Ware;
- 6-Chauncey (1692-1740), m Mary Udell;
- 5-Isaac (1732-83), m Anna Sinclair;
- 4-Abraham (1762-1838), m Catharine Kronkhyte (James^s, capt. N.Y. militia, Am. Rev.);
- 3-Isaac (1800-69), m Martha Minott Mitchell;
- 2-William B. (2 below).
- 10-Matthew **Mitchell** (qv);
- 9-David (1619-85), m Sarah Wheeler;
- 8-John, m Elizabeth Knell;
- 7-John, m Elizabeth Curtiss;
- 6-Asahel (1723-97), pvt. Am. Rev.; m Olive Root;
- 5-Rev. Justus, m Martha Sherman;
- 4-Chauncey Root, m Ann Johnstone (Robert^s, m Mary, dau. Gabriel Ogden, pvt. N.J. militia, Am. Rev.);
- 3-Martha Minott (1810-85), m Isaac **Depew** (3 above).

- 9-Capt. John **Sherman** (qv);
- 8-Joseph (1650-1731), m Elizabeth Winship (Edward^s);
- 7-William (1692-1741), m Mehitable Wellington (Benjamin), among their sons was Roger, a "signer";
- 6-Rev. Josiah (1734-89), A.B., Princeton, '54, A.M., Harvard, 1758, and Yale, 1765; minister, writer and orator; chaplain 7th Conn. Regt. in Am. Rev.; m Martha Minott;
- 5-Martha, m Justus **Mitchell** (5 above).
- 2-William B. **Depew** (1837-97), of Buffalo, N.Y.; m 1865, Helen S. Ganson (1840-1900); issue: I-Ganson (1 above); II-C. Mitchell (May 15, 1867-Apr. 21, 1927).
- 1-m Nov. 15, 1894, Grace Goodyear (Aug. 11, 1872-1914); dau. of Frank Henry Goodyear, financier, lumber and coal man, of Buffalo, mgr. Buffalo & Susquehanna R.R.; issue: 1-Ganson Goodyear (Nov. 2, 1895-Mar. 31, 1924); 2-Lucia Depew, b Buffalo, Jan. 22, 1900; m Nov. 29, 1920, Edward de Cernea.
- 1-Ed. public grammar and high schools, Buffalo. Admitted to bar, 1890; mem. law firms of Greene, McMillan, Gluck & Pooley, attys. for N.Y.C.R.R. Co. and other corpn.s., and its successor, Pooley, Depew & Spratt, until 1902; associated with Frank H. Goodyear in lumber, coal and railroad business in Pa. until retirement, 1923; now dir. Buffalo & Susquehanna R.R. Co., Great Southern Lbr. Co., Millard Fillmore Hosp., Buffalo Fine Arts Acad.; trustee Grosvenor and Buffalo Public libraries, 1910-14. Mem. Buffalo Lumber Exchange (ex-pres.), Chamber of Commerce, etc. Mem. H.S.A., H.S., S.C.W., S.A.R. (pres. Buffalo Chapter, 1925; pres. Empire State Soc., 1926-28; pres. gen. Nat. Soc. 1928-1929), etc. Clubs: Buffalo, Saturn, Park, Automobile (ex-pres.), Buffalo Country (ex-pres.), Wanakah, Transit, etc. Pres. Buffalo Dist. Golf Assn.; exec. com. U.S. Golf Assn. Mason (32°, Shrine). Residence: 165 Summer St., Buffalo, N.Y.



REV. PETER BULKELEY, the first settler and minister at Concord, Mass., 1636.

- 1-**GILLOGLY**, Matthew Lee, b Ogden, Utah, Feb. 5, 1877.
- 9-Rev. Peter **Bulkeley** (qv);
- 8-Rev. Gershom (1636-1713), m 1659, Sarah Chauncey (b 1631);
- 7-Capt. Edward (1672-1748), m 1702, Dorothy Prescott (1681-1760);
- 6-Jonathan (1718-77), m 1746, Abigail Williams;
- 5-Lydia (b 1761), m 1783, Solomon **Savage** (b 1762);
- 4-Lydia (d 1818), m 1802, Miner **Webster** (1780-1820);

It is a monumental work and I congratulate you on your success.—RT. REV. LEWIS W. BURTON, D.D., LL.D., bishop of Lexington, Ky.

THE COMPENDIUM OF AMERICAN GENEALOGY

- 3-Abel (1812-61), *m* 1835, Caroline Doolittle (1816-1884);
- 2-Lydia Lucelia (qv for other lineages), *m* Rev. James Lee Gillogly (1843-81).
- 1-*m* Dec. 17, 1902, Zoe Henrietta Devoy, *b* Eureka, Calif., Jan. 3, 1878; dau. of Henry M. Devoy, of Alameda, Calif.; issue: 1-Lee Devoy, *b* Scotia, Calif., Mar. 25, 1904; 2-Maree, *b* Alameda, Calif., Sept. 27, 1910; 3-Alice, *b* San Rafael, Calif., Dec. 1, 1912; 4-Catherine, *b* San Rafael, Mar. 9, 1916.
- 1-Student Shattuck Mil. Sch. Supt. N.W. Pacific R.R. Mem. B.O.R. Am. Assn. R.R. Supts. Elk. Mason (Consistory, Shrine); mem. Shrine Club of Marion Co., Calif. Residence: 611 Mission Av., San Rafael, Calif.



MEIGS.

Arms: Or, a chevron between three mascles gules, on a chief sable, a greyhound courant argent.
Crest: A talbot's head erased argent, eared sable, collared or, under the collar two pellets fessways. Three acorns erect issuing from the top of the head proper.

- 1-MEIGS, Basil, *b* Washington, D.C., Dec. 7, 1899.
- 11-Vincent Meigs (qv);
- 10-John (1612-71), was at Weymouth and Rehoboth; took oath of fidelity at New Haven, 1644, and admitted freeman; admitted planter at Guilford, 1654; assisted in the escape of the regicides Whalley and Goffe, 1661; constable at Guilford; *m* 1632, Thomasine (or Tamazin) Fry, of Weymouth, Eng.;
- 9-Dea. John (1641-1713), one of the 12 patentees of Guilford; *m* 1st 1665, Sarah Wilcox (*d* 1691; William⁹, of Stratford); *m* 2d, Lydia Crittenden (*d* 1729), widow of Isaac;
- 8-Capt. Janna (1672-1739), first magistrate of East Guilford, Conn.; rep. Gen. Assembly; capt. Train Band; *m* 1698, Hannah Willard, of Wethersfield, Conn. (1674-1749; Josiah⁹, *m* Hannah Hosmer; Maj. Simon¹⁰, qv);
- 7-Return (1708-82), lt. of Train Band or 2d Co. of 6th Conn. Regt.; rep. Conn. Gen. Assembly from Middletown, 1747; *m* 1st, 1732, Elizabeth Hamlin (1711-62; Jabez⁹); *m* 2d, 1763, Jane Doane;
- 6-Col. Return Jonathan (1740-1823), see portrait and biography above; *m* 1st, 1764, Joanna Winborn (*d* 1773), of Middletown, Conn. (their son Return Jonathan, was gov. of Ohio, federal judge, and Postmaster Gen. of the U.S.); *m* 2d, 1774, Grace Starr (*d* 1807);
- 5-John (1771-1807), of Ky., *m* 1797, Parthenia Clendenin (1779-1839), of Charlestown, W.Va.;
- 4-Return Jonathan, 3d (1801-91), lawyer; rode the circuit in Tenn.; atty. gen. of Tenn., 1838; author Meigs' Reports of Supreme Court Decisions in Tenn., Meigs' Digest of Laws; mem. state senate; after moving to Washington, D.C., organized Supreme Court of the district, and its clk. 30 yrs.; *m* 1825, Sally Keys Love (1804-58; John⁹, of Washington, Tenn.);
- 3-Return Jonathan (1830-1913), first asst. clk. of U.S. Ct. for D.C., 50 yrs.; *m* 1854, Elizabeth Martin (1833-1915), of Buchanan, Botetourt Co., Va.;



COL. RETURN JONATHAN MEIGS (1740-1823); commd. lt., 2d Co., 6th Conn. Regt., 1772; capt., Oct. 17, 1774; major in expedition to Quebec where he was taken prisoner; apptd. col. by General Washington, with authority to raise a regiment; received a sword by special act of Congress for his raid on Sag Harbor, L.I., 1777; commanded a regt. in the Battle of Stony Point, 1779; commissioner to the Cherokee Indians.

2-George Clendenin (1873-1907), grad. Columbia School of Law; q.m. sgt. Co. F, 1st D.C. Vol. Inf. in Spanish-Am. War, 1898; *m* 1897, Mamie Higgins (*b* 1880; Edward³, sec. of Ter. of Utah, 1866, *m* 1869, Alice, dau. of John Tysowski, dictator of Cracow during Polish Rev., 1846).

1-Not married. Ed. Cornell and George Washington U. Engineer. Mem. S.C. Residence: 3025 15th St. N.W., Washington, D.C.

1-SPARROW, Jackson Wolcott, *b* Covington, Ky., Aug. 13, 1874.

10-Henry Wolcott (qv);

9-Henry (1610-80), gov.'s asst., 1662; Council of War, 1675-76; *m* 1641, Sarah Newberry (1620-84);

8-Samuel (1656-1708), *m* 1678, Judith Appleton (1661-1702; Samuel⁹, qv);

7-Samuel (1679-1734) *m* 1705, Abigail Collins (1681-1758);

6-Elisha (1717-93), *m* 1746, Sarah Nott (1727-1800);

5-Elisha (1755-1839), Am. Rev.; *m* 1774, Mary Welles;

4-Samuel (1775-1857), *m* 1798, Hannah Butler (1779-1845);

3-Horatio Gates (1804-81), *m* 1838, Martha Ann Hubbard;

2-Mary E. (2 below).

10-Gov. Thomas Welles (qv);

9-John (ca. 1621-1659), dep. Gen. Ct., 1656, et seq.; magistrate, 1658, et seq.; probate judge, Fairfield Co., Conn.; *m* 1647, Elizabeth-;

8-Robert (ca. 1651-1714), dep. Gen. Ct.; a patentee of Wethersfield, Conn.; *m* 1st, 1675, Elizabeth Goodrich (*d* 1697/98);

7-Joseph (1680-1744), *m* Hannah Robbins;

6-Joseph (1720-88), *m* Mary Robbins;

5-Mary (1756-1828), *m* Elisha Wolcott (5 above).

9-Capt. Giles Hamlin (qv);

8-William (1668-1733), *m* Susannah Collins (1669-1721; Rev. Nathaniel⁹, *m* Mary, dau. of William Whiting, qv);

7-Richard (1693-1765), *m* 1721, Martha Smith (*d* 1778);

6-Nathaniel (1732-78), lt. Am. Rev.; *m* 1753, Lucretia Ranny (1737-66);

5-Esther (1760-1836), *m* 1784, Abner Hubbard (1750-1834), sgt. maj. Am. Rev.;

4-Abner (1792-1862), *m* 1814, Elizabeth Woodward;

3-Martha Ann (1815-56), *m* Horatio Gates Wolcott (3 above).

This is the greatest work of the kind ever gotten out in this country.—MARY HILLIARD HINTON, Registrar General, Order of the Crown.

Mother of Lincoln

by
T. R. CARSKADON



ABRAHAM LINCOLN paid tribute to his mother in words that have become immortal: "All that I am, or ever hope to be, I owe to my mother."

Yet who was this mother of Lincoln? It is a strange commentary on our manners and morals that only now is her true story coming to light. She had been dead for more than a century before historians generally agreed as to who she really was. Not until 1929 was her exact birthplace finally located.

The reason for this obscurity is the ancient one that Nancy Hanks Lincoln was a child born out of wedlock. Historians, whether out of ignorance, or mistaken kindness, or sheer prudery, have tended to gloss over her origin. In so doing they have obscured a life of singular steadfastness and courage, a life that moved this woman's son—more great-souled than those who came after him—to a tribute that will live as long as the memory of him endures.

The full story of Nancy Hanks Lincoln is told here for the first time in print, so far as is known. Her life span was brief—a scant thirty-five years from the time she first saw sunlight on the hills of western Virginia until she died of the "milk-sick" on a bleak Indiana prairie. She came into this world unwanted, and her days were filled with hardship and toil. When at last, grown weary before her time, her body was returned to the soil from whence it sprang, she was denied even an inkling of the destiny that awaited her nine-year-old son. It was enough that she was his mother.

To get her complete story, one must go back to her own mother, Lucy Hanks. The tone lightens now as we move to the great estates of Tidewater Virginia in the exciting days following the Revolutionary War. Lucy Hanks was just sixteen in that bright October of 1781 when Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown. The celebration was tremendous. Victorious American soldiers; handsome French officers who came over with that "madcap boy," the Marquis de Lafayette; sturdy British captains who had small stomach for fighting their own race anyway—all these wanted to forget the long strain of war, to relax, and celebrate. The days and nights were filled with sports, dancing, gaming, feasting, drinking and lovemaking. Despite the shocked protests of staid elders, there occurred a "post-war jazz age," similar to that of our own time, following the World War.

Lucy's father, Joseph Hanks, was of the old school. He was a small farmer, a landowner, a member of the Established Church, and although he was of comparatively humble origin, he had married a daughter of the

neighboring great house of Lee. He had a large family, five sons and four daughters, and he had shepherded them through the dangers and uncertainties of war times. He was filled with misgivings now. The boisterous atmosphere of Tidewater Virginia was no fit environment in which to bring up growing children. He sold his farm, moved with his family westward into the wilderness.

The site of the Hanks homestead lies in what is now Mineral County, West Virginia, about fourteen miles southeast of the county seat at Keyser. There a monument of native limestone, erected in 1933, marks the spot where the mother of Abraham Lincoln was born.

In Joseph Hanks' day this quiet hillside was far removed from the excitements of Old Virginia's coastal civilization. Here he thought his children would be safe—particularly his pretty, high-spirited, eldest daughter Lucy. In this he was mistaken.

There has been endless speculation, but not a single item of proven fact, on the vexing question of who was the father of Lucy's child. The best testimony we have comes from Lincoln himself. William H. Herndon, Lincoln's law partner in the Illinois days and the first and most unsparing in the great line of Lincoln's biographers, gives the only recorded reference that Lincoln ever made to the subject. This occurred one day in 1850 as the two law partners, traveling along a rutty country road by horse and buggy, were on their way to the Menard County court to try a case involving paternity. Herndon thus describes the incident:

During the ride he (Lincoln) spoke for the first time in my hearing of his mother, dwelling upon her characteristics, and mentioning and enumerating what qualities he had inherited from her. He said among other things that she was the illegitimate daughter of Lucy Hanks and a well-bred Virginia farmer or planter; and he argued that from this last source came his power of analysis, his logic, his mental activity, his ambition and all the qualities that distinguished him from the other members and descendants of the Hanks family. His theory in discussing the matter of hereditary traits had been, that for certain reasons illegitimate children are often sturdier and brighter than those born in wedlock; and in his case he believed that his better nature and finer qualities came from this broad-minded, unknown Virginian.

The revelation—painful as it was—called up recollections of his mother, and, as the buggy jolted over the road he added ruefully, "God bless my mother; all that I am, or ever hope to be, I owe to her," and immediately lapsed into silence.

That phrase of Lincoln's, "a well-bred Virginia farmer or planter," is the sole clue we have to the identity of his grandfather. His reverent feeling both for his

mother and this unknown grandfather is evident. Indeed, although it is impossible for us to know the name of that long-ago admirer of Lucy Hanks, we can deduce that their romance must have had something of beauty and of restraint. There was no recrimination, no lawsuit, no forced marriage. Lucy Hanks met the man she loved, and of their love a child was born. That child was destined to become the mother of a President of the United States.

The child was christened Nancy, and perforce she had to take her mother's last name, Hanks. This was in the fall of 1783, and in the spring of the following year, Joseph Hanks, heavy-hearted, mortgaged his farm and once more started westward with his family. They went up over the Alleghenies, crossed the rugged hills and valleys of what is now West Virginia, and settled eventually in the hills of Kentucky.

Here Lucy Hanks began a new life. Repenting her misstep, she married an honest, upstanding ex-soldier of the Revolutionary War, Henry Sparrow.

Meanwhile little Nancy, the child of that first, youthful love, was being brought up by the grandmother. When the grandmother died, Nancy was given back to her own mother. To avoid embarrassment, she was called by the same name as the other children in the household and was known as Nancy Sparrow. Later, Lucy's youngest sister Betsy married Thomas Sparrow, a brother of Lucy's husband. When that marriage proved childless, Nancy was given to Thomas and Betsy to bring up. Thus, doubly, she became known as Nancy Sparrow.

It was as Nancy Sparrow that she met and fell in love with an amiable, harrel-chested carpenter, horse-trader and sometime liquor dealer, Tom Lincoln by name. He was known in the community as a shiftless soul, but he had soft eyes and a beguiling smile, and poor Nancy, eager for a home of her own, no matter how humble, pledged him her heart and her hand.

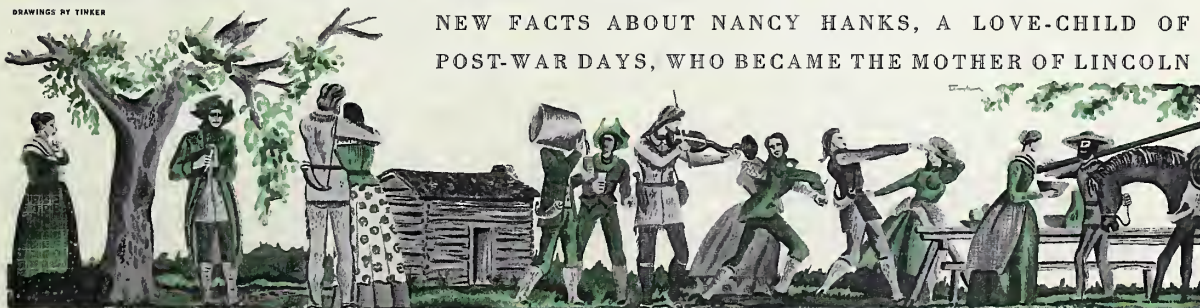
The wedding of Nancy Sparrow and Tom Lincoln was a big event in the backwoods community. The foster-parents gave her in marriage, and her own mother appeared at the wedding as her aunt. But it is an example of Nancy's innate honesty that she insisted that the marriage bond—still preserved in Kentucky—be signed with her rightful name of Nancy Hanks. It is this confusion about her name, incidentally, that has led so many historians astray, has caused so many incorrect, fantastic guesses about her identity.

The one-room house in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, to which Tom Lincoln took Nancy Hanks as a bride was the best she was ever to know. A later owner used it as a stable. It was here that her (Turn to page 51)

Supposed



DRAWINGS BY TINKER



Foster-parents gave Nancy, as a bride, to amiable Tom Lincoln. Her real mother, Lucy Hanks, was present as an aunt

February, 1936



To Market

When "Kamaainas" (Hawaiian word for those born in the Islands) buy food, they go to market and find fresh bread-fruit, mangoes, many other tropical delights. But when they want pineapple juice, they call their grocer, as you would on the mainland. And they ask for DOLE Hawaiian Pineapple Juice. They know that the finest pineapples aren't found in markets. These selected pineapples go from DOLE plantations to DOLE vacuum-sealed cans!

That's why we suggest that you—on the mainland—will want to follow the Kamaainas' example. For economy, for unsweetened purity, call your local grocer, and ask always for DOLE.

Hawaiian Pineapple Co., Ltd., Honolulu, T. H., U. S. A. Sales Offices: 215 Market Street, San Francisco, California.

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The Hearthbrush

(Continued from page 25)

porch roof. The word that had been said lay between them and she wanted to laugh suddenly, to look at this man, seeing him as her husband—but of course that was absurd because he did not want to be tied. It would take some getting used to, she thought. But it might be nice to have a man on the place . . . we've been friends so long I can hardly remember when he wasn't in my life . . . I suppose I've always been a little in love with him. But it doesn't mean anything to a man. I mustn't forget that. It would be silly if I let it mean anything to me, either. Perhaps your husband would like the hearthbrush . . . but the hearth was nothing to him who must be free.

It was different with a woman. She might be free, too, and like it, but a woman would exchange freedom for something warmer. A woman had need of a hearth, of security. Well, she had them, hadn't she?

She looked at her lover balancing the hearthbrush thoughtfully in the palm of his hand. What went on in a man's mind there was no telling. His eyes crinkled in laughter but he did not look at her.

"Yes," he said to the Fuller Brush man, "I like the hearthbrush. We need a hearthbrush," he said. "It's something we've been needing for years." There was no hint of laughter in his voice. He looked at her then, the defenses gone from his eyes, so that she caught her breath and looked quickly away.

When he and the Fuller Brush man had gone out the girl gathered together the

breakfast dishes and stacked them in the sink. She poured water from the kettle on the soap powder so that the suds foamed over the edge of the dishpan. She could hear their voices outside the door saying goodbye with cheerful inflections. "Yes, we think it's a pretty nice place," he was saying to the salesman. And she heard the car start and slide out of the driveway and go into second to take the hill before the door opened again.

SHE felt happy inside and as though there were no weight to her body. She felt clean and young and alive and as if something had happened that she had been awaiting for a long time. It was because of the swimming hole, she reminded herself. She could plant iris and forget-me-nots along the banks and by next year it would be as if it had always been there.

She did not turn when he came into the kitchen but went on washing the breakfast dishes and setting them in the rack to dry.

He came up behind her, putting his arms under her arms, holding her close against his body. Slowly he rubbed his cheek against her hair.

"Out of the mouths of babes—" he said. "Darling, do you think I look," he asked, "like a husband?"

She leaned her head back against his shoulder, her wet hands brown against the white ledge of the sink.

"If you'll dry the silver," she said, "we can get on with our swimming hole. If you look like anybody's husband," she said, "I guess it'll have to be mine."

Mother of Lincoln

(Continued from page 4)

first child, Sarah, was born. Within two years Tom and Nancy had moved. The new farm was over by Hodgen's Mill, hard and rocky foothill country where a living was to be gained only by unremitting toil. This was the Sinking Spring farm. On it was a small, floorless cabin, and Nancy settled down to make a home of it as best she could.

There came a cold Saturday afternoon in February when Tom Lincoln ran out of the cabin to hail a boy who was riding by with some grain for the mill. He told the boy to go fetch Peggy Walters, the grannymother. Aunt Peggy was washing dishes at the time. She dried her hands, huddled up well, got on behind the boy and rode over to the Lincoln cabin. All night long they sat up with Nancy. Just before sun-up on Sunday morning her time came. A child was born. They called him Abraham.

The next few years were difficult ones for Nancy. She and her husband moved about in Kentucky, seeking in vain to gain a foothold for some comfort and security. A third child was born, a sickly little one they named for his father. He soon died. In 1816 Tom Lincoln determined to strike out for new lands. He made an exploratory trip to Indiana and then came back for Nancy and Sarah and Abe. They reached the new home in November of 1816, facing a winter so cold that it is still spoken of in Indiana as "eighteen hundred and froze to death." Against this merciless cold they had only a rude lean-to, built against the side of a hill, with a bearskin rug thrown across the open end.

Spring came, and with it the promise of fairer times. Good reports were sent back to Kentucky. Nancy's foster-parents,

Thomas and Betsy Sparrow, and another aunt, Nancy Hanks Hall (with whom Nancy Hanks Lincoln is sometimes confused) with her husband, Levi Hall, came out to join the settlement. They took over the lean-to, and Tom Lincoln built a crude cabin for himself and Nancy and the children. The next year, in the summer of 1817, just as they were beginning to get a little farm cleared and planted, the dreaded "milk-sick" swept through southern Indiana. This was undulant fever, which lighted animals as well as humans, and was often passed on to humans in cows' milk. All over the countryside, people were dying, cows were dropping their calves, and farmers knelt in blank terror and prayed. Thomas and Betsy Sparrow were swept away, and Levi and Nancy Hall followed them.

Then Nancy Hanks Lincoln came down with the fever. The life that was kindled so fitfully in western Virginia thirty-five years before, the life so shrunken and warped with struggle, was nearing its end. Wary she looked around the cabin. She had wanted a door and a window put in the cabin. She couldn't know that they would not be put in until next year, when a stepmother arrived to take charge. Above all, she hoped that her children would be taken care of.

Feebly she motioned to the dark-haired boy at the foot of her bed. She clasped his hand and murmured a parting benediction. Her task was done. Here in this humble cabin stood her son—the son who would grow up to become President of his country, who would be hailed as the Great Emancipator, and who, in the greatness of his soul, would make her memory immortal.



Fresh LEMON gives real FLAVOR

A person can go just so long without a taste of golden-yellow lemon pie heaped high with lightly browned meringue. After that . . . well, don't blame us for the consequences! We're doing all we can to help by arranging the most tantalizing collection of lemon pie recipes you ever saw. They are all in the new Sunkist booklet of 200 recipes. (Mail coupon.) And they all call for plenty of fresh lemon juice—since that is the only way to be sure of a flavor success. Try—and see!

Copy, 1935, California Fruit Growers Exchange

How long since you've made him a Lemon Pie?



Sunkist California Lemons

BUY THEM BY THE DOZEN

California Fruit Growers Exchange
Sec. 702, Box 5030, Metro. Station
Los Angeles, California
() Send FREE, "Sunkist Recipes for Every Day."

Name _____
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City _____ State _____

THE LUCY HANES SIGNATURE
Louis A. Warren

Prefix I observe before the letter "d" in "doy" at distances of equal parts, three downward strokes slanted at about the same degree as the downward strokes in the body of the paper. These lines about 1/8 of an inch apart are about as tall as the letter "o" in "doy": a lighter line leaving the bottom of the last downward stroke joins the loop of the letter "d" about midway on the left line of the loop the joining being distinguished by a shaded spot showing the connection. Still fainter I observe broken lines which apparently join the bottom of the first downward stroke and the second downward stroke, with the top of the second downward stroke and the third downward stroke respectively. There also seems to be a line approaching the top of the first downward stroke at the top.

"doy" The word day is written in two different places in the text. There is a natural downward stroke from the top of the loop in the letter "a" in both instances and in all other letters similar to this in the certificate. There is a decided upward stroke from the top of the loop in "o" to the letter "y" in "Doy." It does not appear to me that these letters "spell" "day" but "doy."

"day" (Usage) I have looked through hundreds of old papers contemporaneous with this one but I find no instance where the word "day" occurs between the day of the month and the year, which would be necessary in this case if the word "day" dropped below the line and associated with the date. The most common form in the early records was "This 26th day of April 1790." I cannot think the word "day" would be used twice with the same date and that Lucy intended to write "Given under my hand this day April 26th day 1790."

"widoy" If the three letters in question are not "day" but "doy" they can mean nothing by themselves, but they are something and are written to represent something. They cannot be related to "Robert" because of a higher position, but the sequence would be correct if they were related to Lucy. In the upward flourish of the last letter "y" as the letter is finished, the general direction suggests a connection with the "L" in Lucy, which might be started with the same movement of the hand. If it be admitted that the dim markings before "doy" represent "wi" we would have the word "widoy."

Objections (a) "Widoy" does not spell widow but it is not a serious violation of euphony as associated with the usual pronunciation in pioneer days.

(b) Dimness of "wi" theory--The scribe had finished writing certificate with goose quill pen and hesitated to make some inquiry about signatures. The scribe started to write "wi", found the pen to be nearly dry, and with a fresh supply of ink started with "d."

(c) Was ^{Lucy} a widow? The traditions of the ^{immediate} family claim Lucy Hanks was a widow.

I do hereby that I am
of age and give my assent

~~in witness~~
whereof freely for Henry
I have now to get out I send
this or in my other I am
given out in my hand

this day of April 16 1780

Test Robert Lacey

secretary - Hantz

John Henry

I do certify that I am
of age and give my absolute
consent
to be taken freely for Henry
I borrow to get out of sons
this evening this day
given me in my hand
this day April 26 1790
Jost Robert Lacey
march 6 1790
John 6 1790

I do certify that I am
of age and gave my wife
~~the~~

liberty freely for Henry
Sparrow to get out his sons
this or any other day
given me in my hand

This day ^{the} April 26 1730.

Test Robert Lucey

Michael Hank
Johnberry

I do certify that I am
of age and give my assent

~~in witness~~
whereof freely for Henry
I have to get out of sons
this evening other day
given me in my hand

This day of April 26 1770

Test Robert ^{de} Lucy

Justice of the Peace
for the County of Kent

2'1/8 x 2'1/2

Sparrow Family

Charles E. Hammond

501 Penn Place Fort Wayne

F 5168

An uncle of Bayless Hardin
and descendant of John Sparrow of Franklin
County Ky.

Henry Sparrow

Mercer county

1760

Rev Soldier

184

79 yrs old in 1840

Henry Sparrow born in 1761.
see Collins Hist of Kentucky

Lucy Banks

p 74

Hoffmann

p 73

after two years labor found
that the history given called
invariably

p 35

Wm. H. Hurdson

Feb. 22, 1866

Jamaica - Boston - Child

Sarah Jane Dowling
daughter of Mrs. Banks

See Medicine Cabinet
for Altar

D. Hawks to Hawks June (6) 1865

First cheese station made
one week before station started
when was made June 13 1865

Harriet Chapman to Hendon

Dec 17 1865

Jessie Hanks novel Hebrew June 13, 1865

Lucy Banks

Dimen's name has had bad memory of
names

68

Townsend in
New York Tribune 1867

Elijah & Wmfred Lusk
in ^{the} ~~congregation~~ in 1806

SPARROW FAMILY MARRIAGES
Mercer County, Ky.

April 26, 1790	Henry Sparrow and Lucy Hanks
Oct. 17, 1796	Thomas Sparrow and Elizabeth Hanks
Aug. 6, 1798	Peter Sparrow and Rebecca Bowling(1st.wife)
Nov. 19, 1800	" " " Millie Edwards(2nd.wife)
March 5, 1790	John Daniel and Biddy Sparrow
Feb. 11, 1804	Dennis Sparrow and Sussanne Davis
--- -- 1818	James Sparrow and Nancy Hineman

All of the above five Sparrows were the children of James and Mary Sparrow as shown in will: dated May 18, 1789. "My eldest son Henry four other sons, Thomas, James, Peter, and Dinny."

The aboved named James may not be the one mentioned in the will and Biddy, said to be a sister, is not named in will.

Lucy Hanks , The mother of Nancy Hanks was first married to a man named Hanks, first name unknown, in Virginia . She had one child Nancy by him. She married Henry Sparrow as her second husband and by this union had eight children: James, Thomas, Henry, George, Elizabeth, Lucy, Peggy, and Polly.

Elizabeth Hanks , who married Thomas Sparrow was the foster mother of Dennis Friend Hanks, She had no children of her own. Thomas and Elizabeth Sparrow and Dennis, moved to Indiana in 1818 and settled near the Lincolns, Thomas and Elizabeth both died at the same time as Nancy Hanks Lincoln of the same decease and tradition says they are burried by her side in the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Cemetery at Lincoln City, Ind.

Lincoln Contact is made through the children of Henry Sparrow and Lucy Hanks who would be half- brothers and half-sisters to Nancy Hanks Lincoln, mother of the President but no relation to President Lincoln himself.

Note - There is much tradition contrary to the above conclusions but documentary sources seem to bear out the statements as here set down.

There was a Bush River monthly meeting
of friends in N.C. from which some Harkers
moved to Ohio

Joshua Harker was born in Carolina Va in 1760
when his young moved with parents to David County, N.C.
moved at 17 yrs of age back to Virginia to New River Co. now Carroll Co.
one of six brothers in Revolutionary War. - grandson Enoch Harker.

Richard Harker & Phoebe Hager were married Oct 11, 1786 must have been second wife
Joshua born May 1, 1782 John born Aug 31, 1786
children Joshua John / Martha James, Thomas, Mary, David, Ann, Nathan
Old will book in possession of Mrs W H Hoffman, Gastonia, N.C. (1895)

A Harker family still found in Orange County N.C.

Thomas Wright Spenser was in N.C. as early as 1738 lived
land in Brunswick County Va.

David S. Melburn was born in North Carolina

Correspondence with R E Price editor of News ^{Richmond} ~~Rutherford~~ County N.C.
~~See also J. C. Bartlett~~

Jefferson College N.C. has old funeral records
Mrs. Laura D. Worth in charge

not good

A Census of Persons
1841 (The sixth census)

June 1 1840

Berry, Perry - widow of Robert Perry	88 yrs	W James Perry
Mitchell, Robert -	80 "	Robert Mitchell
Hanks, Richard -	87	Robert Hanks
Berry, Andrew	81	Andrew Berry
Jeffers, William	77	Wm Jeffers
Jeffers, Henry	79	Henry Jeffers
Ballou, Black W.	81	B W Ballou
Hanks, Abner	77	—
Bowling, Thomas	77	—
Jeffers, William	83	James W J.

Hester, Jacob

1840
87
53

Letter from Lawrence to Barton
Sept 10 1917

Barton Collier
Chicago Ill

Re. Inquest of Nancy.

"My father Marshall took into his house for 10 years
or two the son of his brother Charles when the latter died
in 1805. This son was Martin, Robert Marshall.
Charles married Lucy Rickett and the son was born
between 1794 and 1799."

Now that it is possible that Marshall may
have been the grandfather of Lincoln.

James Banks	4 w/ money	Amelia	1769
James "	cells land	"	1774
James	Hanks	buy land	1764
James	Hanks	buy	1768
James	Hanks	buy	1763
James	Hanks	buy	1765
James	Hanks	buy	1766
James	Hanks	buy	1769
James	Hanks	buy	1768
James	Hanks	buy	1770

Campbell

James	Hanks	buy	1787
James	Hanks	buy	1794
James	Hanks	buy	1795
James	Hanks	buy	1795
James	Hanks	buy	1794
James	Hanks	buy	1798
James	Hanks	buy	1804
James	Hanks	buy	1783
James	Hanks	buy	1777

Puncheon County N.C.

James Hanks	tithe - Lincoln Co N.C.	1790
James Hanks	sole heir	1793
James Hanks	with John Hanks land	1777
James Hanks	Rawson James Sept	1784

Decatur Ill. March 19, 1895

I think I have heard my mother say that my father James Hanks was named for his grandfather James Hanks.

Mrs. Mathie Bridges
granddaughter of William & Elizabeth Hanks.

Decatur Ill. Sept 17, 1894

The mother of Abraham Lincoln her name was Nancy Hanks and she was a sister to William Hanks my grandfather or an aunt to her John Hanks I could not say what the name of the mother of Nancy Hanks and William Hanks was but it may have been Lucinda.

and J. Hanks

J. S. Cherrington claims his mother was a Hanks and a first cousin to Lincoln.

Decatur Colo Mar 24 1896
Father Joseph Hanks was born Jan 1781 in Kentucky
76 years old.
Elizabeth Hanks.

Home Colo Jan 14 1895

You ask how many Sparrow Hanks got the name Sparrow. She never had the name nobody ever thought that any such part of her name ~~should~~ existed until John & James Hanks in their dotage dictated the monstrous biography published by Hendricks & Wells
J. M. Hanks.

Pennsboro West Virginia March 2/1943.

Mr. Louis A. Warren
Fort Wayne
Indiana

Dear sir:

Your Indiana Magazine of History Sept. 1942 was sent to me because of the article about the Lincolns, by my cousin Ida Helen McCarty a member of your Society I think, and until last year Regent National D A C of your state. Pennville Indiana.

Thanks to you for saying you are proud of the Lincolns in Indiana, for they are and were worthy our respect, no doubt the south think they have the right to hate him our great president of the Civil war days "for did he not free four million slaves" a colored lady told me why she was voting for Harding for said she "didn't Lincoln free my parents who were Virginia slaves" on the other side of the picture my fathers brother died during that war fighting under Gen. Robert E. Lee for the south. They lost and they still hate his name, Feb. 12 is not spoken of in Va. schools yet today.

But to seek to do damage to the reputation of either of his parents is not to be taken lightly by north or south. I have read no Lincoln books for books are often an accumulation of misrepresentation. But I have made two Lincoln scrap books with facts I knew, and to say, I am quoting one writer "He lived in a cabin of one room under conditions of the most abject poverty, the cabin having neither partitions or floors scarcely windows or doors" I do not believe it. Neither do I think of Thomas Lincoln as shiftless "poor white trash" poor in those days, maybe, but not trash.

We have the discontented youthful pioneering spirit which forever quests for that which is better--this is the spirit that has made this nation a great people. Our forefathers were ever looking ahead for that which looked better perhaps to their own hurt. "A rolling stone gathers no moss" But who wants to be a mossback anyway?

Quoting page 253 of your article -- by Beveridge, backwoods -poverty and Virginia mountains, makes me boil over for the truth if he had of tried to find any, would of been this -- A. Lincoln as he so often signed his name said his father had been born in Rockingham Co. Va. I will add the place Lacy Springs and it is in the most beautiful part of the lovely Shenandoah mountains I have seen this home twice, passed it last year. Have a good picture that was in the New York paper not so long ago. call it the "ancestral home of John Lincoln, great-grandfather of A. Lincoln." as such it was pointed out to me. It could well of been called a mansion? large English type built with the two end chimneys (-where snipers hid during the Civil war) two story, large 4 pane windows with shutters, large almost full length porch, lawn with shade trees, well kept in repair. I also have a good picture of his father reprinted in Life Magazine, in this well dressed and charming pose he shows marked intelligence, and why not? when in view of his ancestry.

Hingham England church of the 14th century has a bust of Abe. Lincoln it was the home of Robert Lincoln accepted as the earliest known home of the ancestor of A. Lincoln who lived there about 1540 near Mousehold Heath.

Samuel Lincoln the 1st ancestor came to Hingham Mass. about 1737 built a colonial church, his seat still marked with his name. and there were 37 desc. who were ministers, with Abe. of the 7th christian generation. His 5th cousin Randall S. Lincoln, Hingham Mass. 1083 Main St. I write to.

